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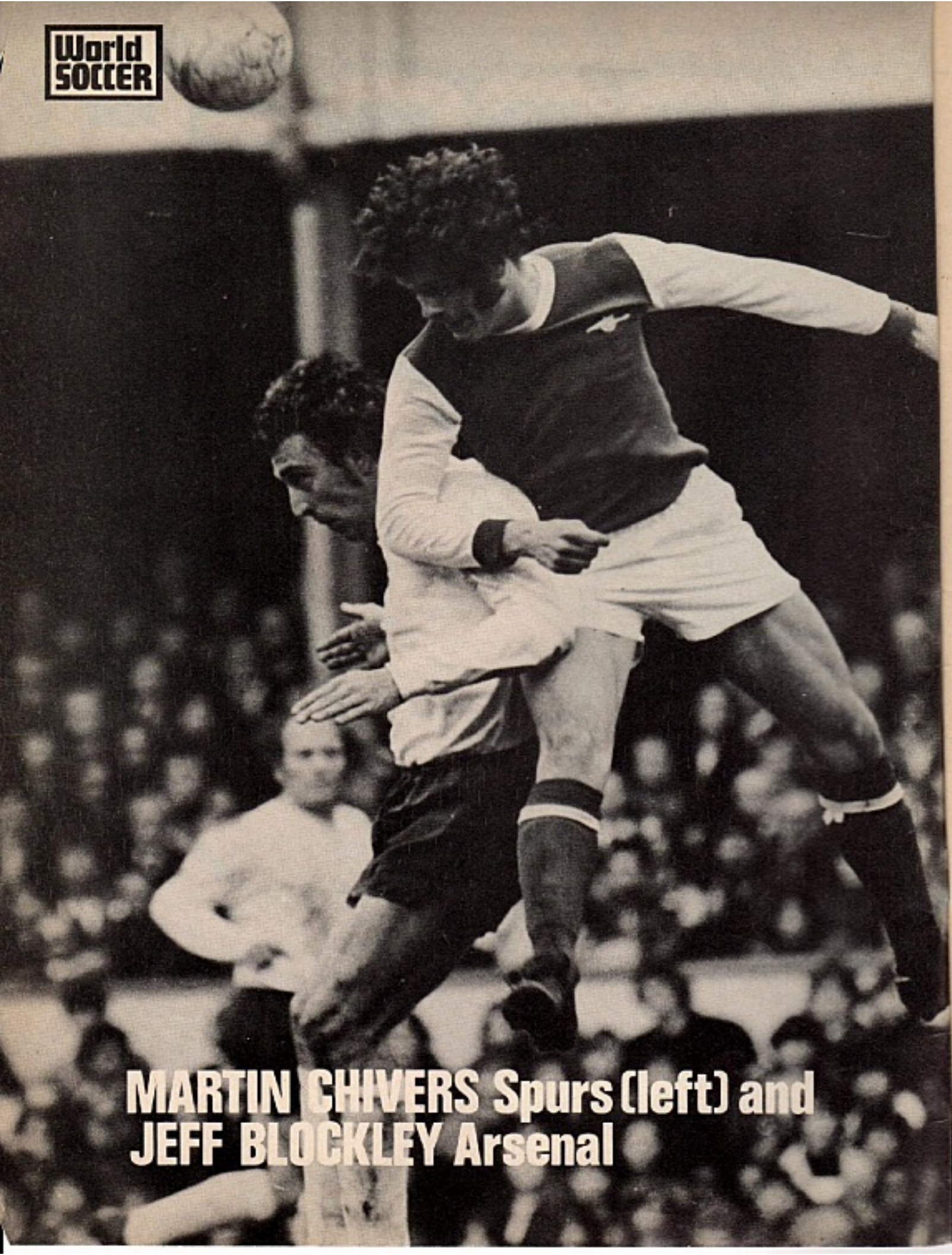
WORLD SOCCER

The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

JUNE 1973



MARTIN CHIVERS Spurs (left) and JEFF BLOCKLEY Arsenal

WORLD SOCCER
incorporating SOCCER STAR
The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

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JUNE WORLD SOCCER, 1973
VOL. 13 No. 9

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WORLD SOCCER (incorporating SOCCER STAR) is published monthly by Websters Publications Ltd., 79 Temple Chambers, London, E.C.4, England. Situated at this address are the magazine's Editorial, Advertising and Publishing offices. Printed by The Chesham Press Ltd., Chesham, Buckinghamshire. © Websters Publications Ltd. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.

Clarke boosts England

ENGLAND'S much improved performance against Wales at Wembley was both welcome and refreshing, even allowing for the fact that the Welsh were one of the worst teams seen in the international arena for a long time. Sir Alf Ramsey, at last, seems to have hit upon a striking trio who can "play a bit" individually and also combined collectively.

Martin Chivers, so often the slumbering giant in an England jersey, appears to be rejuvenated by the promotion to the senior side of Mike Channon. They used to play together for Southampton, of course, and form a highly effective partnership. Channon seems destined for a prolonged stay in the side; it is a pity his international career wasn't given a chance to blossom earlier.

But the man who really makes the frontline click is Allan Clarke, whose range of skills is much more vast than it was a couple of years back. He remains a very sharp striker inside the penalty box, capable of conjuring goals out of nothing. His appetite for the general "chores" has increased, too, and his passing and vision against Wales was a prime cause for the improvement.

There were many who thought Ramsey should have used the Wales game to experiment. But why? The vital clash with Poland is not far away and it is essential that the players get as much chance as possible to play together and improve cohesion.

Clarke, Channon and Chivers must be retained; Peter Shilton has established himself ahead of Ray Clemence in goal: Roy McFarland, Bobby Moore (some vintage stuff from him against Wales) and Emlyn Hughes are automatic selections.

Alan Ball and Colin Bell have struck up a useful understanding, and both are beginning to strike their best form. Martin Peters, despite an excellent goal against Wales, remains a bit of a luxury. He will probably be replaced in Poland by Norman Hunter, when the accent will be more on defence, but should return when an attacking policy is the order of the day.

FRONT COVER

The subject of our front cover this month is Gunter Netzer of Borussia Monchengladbach and West Germany.

EUROPE

DEJNA HITS POOR SPELL

Kazimierz Dejna of Poland.

POLAND

SINCE the Poles took the Olympics gold medal last summer, almost nothing has gone right for their key players. Szoltysik and Lubanski have both been out injured for lengthy spells while Dejna, the inspiration of Legia, is having a very poor season.

In the autumn campaign, LKS Lodz, Stal Mielec, Ruch Chorzow all topped the table though Gornik Zabrze, holders of the 1972 Cup and League double came back to lead at the half-way mark. Since then, however, in seven league matches Gornik have scored only three goals.

In the key matches Gornik were beaten 1-0 at home to Wisla Krakow (scored by Kmiecik and on the same day Stal visited Warsaw to beat Legia 3-0. At that point Stal, Gornik and Wisla all shared the top spot.

Then followed three consecutive draws for Gornik that produced only one goal before they beat Odra Opole 1-0 at home—the goal scored by Szarmak.

Stal Mielec are the only team scoring goals consistently and a 2-0 home win over Wisla before a capacity 20,000 crowd took them clear at the top.

Ten of Gornik's 18 league goals have gone to Szarmak's account and he has successfully stepped up from Division II (last season) to win an Under 23 cap against East Germany.

Stal Mielec meanwhile have mustered 36 goals and taken full advantage of the collapse of the giants. With six games left they are two points ahead of Gornik who still hang on in second place. The two must meet again but after a 0-0 draw in Zabrze, Stal must be favourites to win their first ever championship.

Legia languish in 10th place and are now being overshadowed by neighbours Gwardia who were probably the most improved team of 1972.

Legia have qualified for the semi finals of the Cup, however, along with Polonia Bytom and their neighbours Szombierki, but Gornik went out 1-1 and 1-2 to Third Division Odra Wroclaw.

Double-header works wonders

RUMANIA

AT the resumption of the league programme in Rumania, all four Bucharest clubs took a leaf from the Hungarians. Resuming with the derby matches in the capital, Steaua and Dinamo, who are setting the pace for the championship staged, their home games as a double-header at the 23rd August stadium.

The result was a staggering 75,000 attendance compared with the 12,000 average for the First Division.

Steaua who played first drew 0-0 with Rapid and Dinamo with Dumitrache scoring twice were surprisingly held to a 3-3 draw by bottom of the table Sportul Studentzec.

Only two points separate the top five clubs and the leaders appear to take it in turns to be beaten away from home. Argesul (formerly Dinamo) Pitesti have stormed back to within two points of the top since going out of the European Cup without their inside forward star Dobrin out through injury.

They produced a good 2-1 win away to FC Ploesti on a day when league leaders Steaua went down 2-0 away to newly promoted CSM Resitza.

The favourites for the 1973 title are Dinamo Bucharest and Universitatea Craiova who have the only consistent goalscorers in Dumitrache (10) and Oblemenco (11).

After the 2-0 away defeat against Russia in Kiev, new national team manager Valentin Stanescu produced a re-shaped side for the vital visit to Albania. Left winger and captain Mircea Lucescu was axed to make way for Pitesti's young right winger Troi.

With Radu Nunweiler re-instated in midfield in a dominant mood their 4-1 win was quite the best any visiting side have managed in Tirana since Albania re-entered the international arena. Troi, Dumitrache and Jordanescu (Steaua) the three strikers in Tirana all played well and each scored a goal.

EUROPE

Dnepr march ahead

RUSSIA

THE managerial re-shuffle during the off-season in Russia does not appear to have done many of the best known clubs much good. Zenith Leningrad, who engaged German Zonin after he had unexpectedly led Zarja Voroschilovgrad to the league title last year, are bottom and still pointless after the first month of the new campaign.

His old club Zarja appear to have gone back too. They began with a 1-1 draw away to Dynamo Thilissi but lost on the new penalty rule (4-5). Then they visited Ararat Jerevan and again drew 1-1 before a capacity 70,000 crowd and then in their first home game watched by a capacity 40,000 they did it again.

Penalties

Drawing 0-0 with Dnepr, they scored three penalties against four. Three games, three draws and, under the new system, no points.

Ararat certainly seem to have got the better of Spartak Moscow who sacked manager Nikita Simonian after he had been with the club for more than 20 years as player and coach.

The Jerevan club began with a 3-1 win over Dynamo Kiev, then took the point on penalties against champions Zarja before going to Moscow for the first day play was possible there.

Regulation

Their opponents were Spartak and the result 2-2 and of course, again down to penalties which Ararat won 5-4. Leaving Spartak still without a point.

The new regulation, designed to avoid draws, doesn't seem to have made any great impact as yet though the league tables would look very different if a draw gained one point.

Spartak, for example, began with three draws and lost them all on penalties. In the first three rounds of the campaign nine of the 24 games ended up square and only once has more than five penalties been needed. This was for Spartak's draw at Rostov against ASK which went to 7-6.

Leaders after the first month are Dnepr (Dnepropetrovsk) who were promoted last season and Schachtjor Donezk who are newly promoted.

Nenad Bjekovic of Yugoslavia.

RED STAR HIT BY INJURIES

YUGOSLAVIA

THOUGH unfashionable Velez Mostar are still hanging on two points behind, Red Star storm on towards the championship despite a terrible trail of injuries.

Without Drajic and Acimovic they won 2-0 against Celik at Zenica before a record 30,000 crowd then still depleted won 2-1 at Ljubliana against Olimpija.

Lazarevic has been scoring goals regularly but with Acimovic back they still struggled to beat bottom of the table Sutjeska by 3-2 in Belgrade. Then their run of seven consecutive victories came to an end in the local derby away to Partizan.

Held to 0-0, Red Star were again hit by the injury jinx for international full back Krivokuca was carried off in this game and will be out for the rest of the season.

Fortunately for Red Star, Velez have been troubled by injury, too, for in recent games they have been without their schemer Vladic, their striker Bajevic or both.

Nevertheless they beat Borac (Banjaluka) 1-0 and FC Bor 3-0 away and then with Bajevic scoring twice beat Olimpija 2-1. Then when Red Star dropped a point against Partizan, Velez failed to take advantage for they too were hit by injuries.

They started away to Sutjeska, at full strength but after only three minutes Bajevic went off injured and Vladic followed him later. Still they hung on to draw 0-0.

Third placed OFK have been without Santrac their top scorer, too, and have slipped well behind though still third.

Santrac and Lazarevic have hit 19 goals each to date with Bajevic on 18 and they are all marked men.

Prior to the encouraging 1-0 win away to West Germany, national team manager Vujadin Bojkov was under considerable criticism. His squad played two ineffective training games in Belgrade, beating Akademik (Bulgaria) 2-1 and a team chosen by readers of the Beograd "Evening News" held them to 0-0.

Two more internationals, Bukal (Zeljeznicar) and Petkovic (OFK) are now old enough to go abroad and have apparently agreed to join Standard Liege.

EUROPE

BULGARIA

Sofia clubs still lead

WITH Lokomotive Plovdiv failing to maintain their form of the autumn campaign, the running has inevitably been taken up by the big Sofia clubs. Christo Bonev, the Plovdiv captain and top scorer, has maintained his form but though he has boosted his goals tally to 20, Lokomotive have picked up only nine points in ten games in the second half of the programme.

Consequently they have been pushed into fourth place behind CSKA, Levski and Slavia, Sofia's big three, with two other teams from the capital Akademik and Lokomotive immediately behind them.

Bonev & Co are now a clear eight points behind the leaders CSKA and the Army team with a clear six point lead appear to have the title sewn up.

CSKA'S only serious rivals were Levski, who slipped up when dropping a point 1-1 away to Dounav Rousse on a day when CSKA were hammering Volov (Choumene) by 7-1.

Levski then threw away their game in hand losing 1-0 at home to Sparta. Jekov got four goals in the rout of Volov, who are bottom of the table but though still the top scorer with a total of 21 he has got only one goal in four other games.

In this period the new young international Denev has hit eight goals.

Amongst the teams struggling against relegation are two surprises—Etar and Beroe. Etar topped the table briefly during the autumn campaign but can now do little right.

Beroe qualified for the UEFA Cup this season but perhaps miss the influence of their former manager Chritso Mladenov, who is now boss of the national side.

Though still not safe, they have moved out of immediate danger by drawing 1-1 with Etar and beating Bolov 4-0.

In the Balkan Cup Mladenov turned out a "B XI" against Turkey at Izmir and paid the penalty with a 5-2 defeat. But his overall policy of building a new young team appears to be paying off.

Bonev (now the captain) and the young CSKA star Denev got the vital goals in the 2-1 World Cup win over Portugal . . . the one that counts.

Jekov—the leading scorer in Bulgaria.

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PRIVATE SHOWS CAUSE DISMAY

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ATTENDANCES in Czechoslovakia remain well below normal with television being blamed, along with the continuing poor performance of the national team. Prior to the 1-1 draw against Denmark that makes World Cup qualification appear impossible, the national squad had a private run out in Prague against Division II league leaders Bohemians.

Not even the press were allowed in and national team boss Vaclav Jezek was probably pleased about that—and nothing else. Bohemians beat the World Cup probables 3-0.

Though matches are televised live and in full regularly and the games are known in advance there are still anomalies. On a day when there was no TV, for example, Lokomotive Kosice beat Teplice 1-0 and Lokomotive, eighth in the table, were watched by only 762.

The following week-end neighbours VSS Kosice met Tatran Presov and won 2-1 before 10,000 despite the fact that the game was televised.

The same week-end the Prague derby, Slavia v Sparta, was also screened and what would normally have been a big game attracted only 8,000.

In the championship race VSS Kosice (3rd) played host to 4th placed Zilina and won handsomely by 5-0. Then after beating Presov (temporary leaders) they won their first away match of the campaign—1-0 at Bratislava against Slovan.

Slavia are still firmly fixed to the bottom of the table though six clubs are situated above them only four points away. But without an away win and only four more home games to play things look desperate.

At the top end of the championship race, Spartak Trnava, the champions, lie third, two points behind Presov and one behind VSS Kosice. They slipped back through having three matches postponed (and have them in hand—two at home to Slovan Bratislava and Lokomotive Kosice.

The only match Trnava have played since their defeat at Derby was away to Banik Ostrava who beat them 2-1.

Ostrava, now managed by former Sparta star Tomas Pospichal, are relegation possibles but have a big date pending in their Cup Final clash with VSS Kosice.

STASTNY WORKS MIRACLE

AUSTRIA

THE second 2-2 draw against the old enemy Hungary has put Austria in with a real chance of qualifying for the World Cup and overshadowed the domestic competition.

Czech-born team manager Leopold Stastny appears to have worked a mini-miracle, blending the backbone of players borrowed from West Germany and Holland.

However, Ajax came badly out of the affair, for according to an OFB spokesman they demanded £2,000 (apparently agreed in his contract) for the release of their reserve defender Heinz Schilcher.

Austria Klagenfurt agreed terms with West German international winger Reinhardt "Stan" Libuda, blackballed by the *Bundesliga* bribery scandal and barred from France where he was playing for Strasbourg.

Libuda arrived but the OFB refused to register him though they could hardly do otherwise after suspending Hans Pirkner (Alpine Donawitz) who was involved before his return home.

Dominate

Foreigners continue to dominate the Austrian First Division—even an Israeli and an Egyptian. Bobby Breuer one of the many Germans now in Austria tops the scorers list after scoring three times in Swarowski's 7-1 win over Alpine.

Breuer leads another former West German star Lothar Emmerich who has 14 but is under suspension for five games after being sent off.

Ten of the highest placed scorers are currently imported players — mostly Germans.

Candidates

Though VOEST Linz are too far behind to have a real championship chance they could decide the eventual outcome. In consecutive games they have met the leading candidates losing 2-0 to Rapid then beating Admira 4-0 at home.

These two share the lead one point ahead of champions Swarowski Innsbruck and ASK Linz, leaders at the break were held by neighbours VOEST to 0-0.

Leipzig go down

EAST GERMANY

THE FA Cup Final in East Germany was staged before a capacity 30,000 crowd at Dessau but the favourites, 1st FC Lokomotive Leipzig, went down 3-2 to 1st FC Magdeburg. Three days earlier, in a league match, Lokomotive captain Peter Giessner and one of their top strikers Wolfram Lowe both received their third cautions and under the regulations they were automatically suspended for the next league or Cup match!

At Dessau, Henning Frenzel put Lokomotive in the lead after only five minutes but Manfred Zapf, the Magdeburg libero, headed an equaliser. Jurgen Sparwasser then settled the issue in the second half with two goals, though Altman hit back for Leipzig between them.

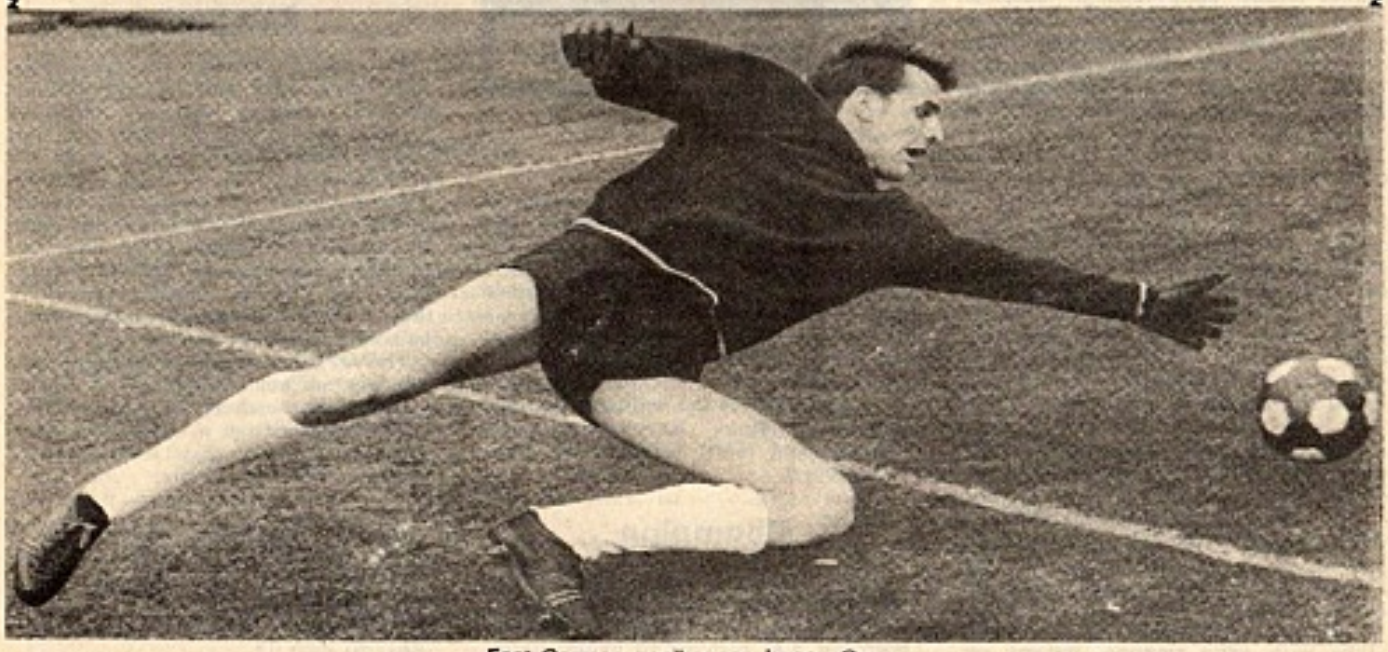
Dynamo Dresden maintained their unbeaten league run for 17 matches, equalling the best ever figures in East Germany, previously set by Turbine Erfurt in 1954 and Dinamo Berlin in 1960.

Then away to FC Carl Zeiss Jena, their only serious championship rivals, they went down 2-0 in Jena. Eberhard Vogel scored both the goals for Jena who had their unbeaten home record (from August 1968) to preserve.

On the same day a 37,000 crowd watched the Leipzig derby 1st FC Lokomotive v Chemie Leipzig. Unknown Koditz settled the issue in the second half with his first goal of the season (1-0).

It was an eventful day with relegation as well as championship issues involved. Hansa Rostock, one of the threatened clubs had to play their home game against BFC Dinamo Berlin at Brandenburg because their ground was closed for one match by the FA after bottles were thrown on to the pitch at home to Magdeburg.

Hansa rose to the occasion to win handsomely by 5-1 with Joachim Streich, the young Hansa international getting a hat trick. Hans-Jurgen Kreische (Dresden) still tops the scorers list with 15 while Streich and Johannsen (BFC Dinamo) have 10 each.



East German goalkeeper Jurgen Croy.

EUROPE

Borussia aim for three cups

West Germany

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

A FANTASTIC programme of 90 matches in 10 months is about to be completed by one of Germany's top teams, Borussia Mönchengladbach. The fact that this successful club is reaching out for trophies in all three cup competitions which they entered, is of course contributing to this amazing total of fixtures, which dwarfs anything ever undertaken by any club in Europe. Between April 3 and 25, Borussia played — in addition to their normal league matches — six Cup-ties alone! Their full programme by the end of the season will have included 67 competitive matches, plus 23 friendlies.

As I write, Borussia have reached two finals, the UEFA Cup, in which they met Liverpool, and the League Cup, opposing Hamburger SV, and they have also entered the semi-finals of the German FA (DFB) Cup, in which they were confronted by Werder Bremen! Even the absence of their great captain and schemer Günter Netzer, whose injury kept him out for exactly two months — and even after returning to the side he could only play for limited periods in a number of matches — failed to disturb Gladbach's rhythm.

Sensation

One of the biggest sensations in the history of German cup football was sprung by Kickers Offenbach, who after a 2-2 home draw in the quarter-finals, eliminated mighty Bayern Munich in their own ground in the Olympic stadium! Only 15,000 fans braved a chilly and rainy night, but they were rewarded with perhaps the most dramatic game of the season. Offenbach's hero was the famous World Cup star Sigi Held — his name means aptly enough hero in German! — who scored the first two goals, by which Kickers led at half time. Shortly after resumption, Schäfer even made it 0-3, before Hansen and Gerd Müller (penalty) replied for the champions.

Defeat

Two minutes from time Ritschel finally nailed Bayern with another goal, to give Offenbach a sensational 4-2 victory! It was incidentally Bayern's first home defeat in three years and after more than 70 matches. In the other quarter-finals Cologne disposed of Eintracht Brunswick by 5-0 away (!) and just 3-2 at home. Werder Bremen overcame Hertha Berlin by 2-0 (h) and 2-2 (a), while Mönchengladbach put out Kaiserslautern 2-1 (h) and 3-1 (a).

The cup competition is now under fire from all quarters, mainly because of the system of home and away ties has brought disappointing gates, when the original concept behind the "doubling" of fixtures was precisely to provide the clubs with extra revenue. Bayern can console themselves with the profit of £170,000 from their last financial year!

The club will invest some of the proceeds in new players. Club president Wilhelm Neudecker, who is determined that Bayern should at last make an impact in the European Champions Cup, has disclosed that negotiations are already under way to secure the services for next season of the brilliant attacking full back Jupp Kapellmann from Cologne, and Horst Köppel who plays for Stuttgart.

Champion

Earlier, Bayern were interested in Schalke's international winger Erwin Kremers, but until that club settle their problems and manage to avoid relegation, no further moves have been contemplated. In any case, the champions are not prepared to offer the demanded £70,000 - £80,000 fees. In Germany no player except perhaps Müller, Beckenbauer or Netzer, is rated at more than £60,000. And beyond that figure Bayern are unwilling to discuss business!

With five games left, Bayern needed just a couple of points to make sure of retaining the championship. And if they manage to sign a first-class winger, plus a schemer, to relieve Hoeness and Beckenbauer, then they could be a formidable force in the European Cup next season.

The grim aftermath of the *Bundesliga* corruption scandals now threatens to shake the whole structure of German football and especially the National League. In effect, a court of law has decided that the five Schalke players — Fichtel, Rüssmann, Lütkebohmert, Sobieraj and Fischer — who were suspended and heavily fined by the DFB for accepting bribes to "throw" a match in 1971, should be allowed to play for the club pending their appeal.

But the Football Federation rejected this intrusion into their authority and has cancelled Schalke's subsequent League match against Cologne, whilst a special committee were to study the legal implications arising out of this interference with the already imposed ban on the Schalke players.

Relegation

To make matters worse, those *Bundesliga* clubs, who like Schalke, are currently fighting against relegation, turned out to play on that day only under protest and clearly, with the prestige of the DFB at stake, the forthcoming "trial of strength" between soccer officialdom and the administrators of civil justice could have far-reaching consequences, perhaps for the whole of German football, proud of their claim of having the largest Football Association in the world.

The DFB has meantime lifted the suspensions on nine Eintracht Brunswick players, because they admitted receiving "win" bonuses from a third party. They will just have to pay their fines of roughly £500 each.

Leading Bundesliga scorers: Gerd Müller (Bayern) 28; Heynckes (Borussia Mönchengladbach) 23; Pröpper (Wuppertal SV) 17; Wunder (MSV Duisburg) 16; Walitza (VfL Bochum) and Hoeness (Bayern) each 15.

EUROPE

News from France by Andre Duclos

PARIS FC WINNING THEIR BID FOR FIRST DIVISION SURVIVAL

IT really does look, at the time of writing, as if the bold risk taken by Paris F.C., when they replaced both their Chairman and their manager, is going to pay; that they will stay in the First Division. Though they have had away wins such as the "derby" at Red Star, none of their performances this season has bettered their 2-0 home win against Nice, both goals going to their French international right winger, Floch. But the hero of the day was a player of whom I have frequently written in these pages before; and of whom I am happy to be writing again: Daniel Horlaville.

The former French amateur international and Olympic centre-forward who did so well in Mexico in 1968 gave a glorious exhibition of technique and imagination — in midfield, where he finds it so much easier to play. He likes it better, he says, when there is plenty to do; when he plays upfield and seldom sees the ball, he admits that he tends to become distracted. It would perhaps also be fair to say that a certain lack of speed and bite, owed possibly to his late arrival in professional football, do not handicap him as much in a position which gives him more time.

Horlaville, an honest man indeed, blames this late arrival for the fact that he tends to lack stamina, hard and earnestly though he seeks it in training. This may, he feels, be why he tends to play particularly well after he has had a rest from the game; as he had before the Nice match. Antoine Dalla Cieca understands this very well, which is why he has sometimes left Horlaville out of the team. Some blamed him for spurning so fine a player, little knowing that Dalla Cieca had Horlaville's own interests at heart.

Interesting features

Perhaps in the ensuing weeks he will be able to persuade the Israeli inside-forward Mordecai Spiegler, who had a superb game against Nice, to stay in and with Paris. Spiegler has not been very happy in this, his first season in French professional football, but it would be a great pity if, at this encouraging moment, when it does seem that Paris have the makings of a reasonably successful time, he should be lost to them.

One of the interesting features of the prowess of Nantes, who set such a hot pace for so long at the top of the League, has been the contribution of Claude Arribas; son of the manager, José Arribas. A midfield player, Arribas has something in common with Peter Storey and Norman Hunter; he has often been criticised for being too hard. The effect on him has been that he has tended to moderate his play; with good results. He is a useful, energetic man to have in one's side, and he has a fine shot, with which he has scored direct from free kicks.

Versatile footballer

Another promising young member of the team is the attacking right-back, Jean-Claude Osman, slight in appearance but a doughty, versatile footballer. He has come up through the juniors of the club, starting as a mid-field player, becoming then a centre-half, and ultimately a full-back. In this position his liking for the overlap makes him an ideal modern defender.

As for the veterans, the remarkable Joseph Bonnel of Olympique Marseilles has recently played his 500th League match. He is 34 years old, yet recently Marseilles showed their faith in him by persuading him to sign a new four year contract. Making a name with Montpellier, Bonnel went to Valenciennes where, he says, despite the reputation of clubs from the "cold North" — in the South — of not being as agreeable to play for, he spent several delightful years; so much so that he would willingly have gone back.

There seems little chance of that happening; Marseilles know his value too well. While other, more expensive players have failed or fallen by the wayside, this highly professional inside-forward has gone on playing good, steady football. Rather like the weedy young man in the Charles Atlas advertisement, Bonnel recalls that an unassertive young player, he used to get knocked about a great deal; but that he ultimately learned to take care of himself.

Another veteran who has been playing exceeding well, though in the second Division, is Andy Schmit of Mulhouse. This is a clever Luxemburg international inside-forward who formally played for Sochaux; who must be wondering why they let him go. Schmit has shrewdly been making the bullets for the front three runners, Hoffsess, Sanchez and Dublin, to fire; and they've been firing them with splendid zeal. A 4-1 win over Monaco, who are bound to win this group of the Second Division, was something to be proud of. Had Mulhouse only made a better start to the season, this latish run would have made them promotion challengers, themselves.

That rather disappointing and uncharacteristic performance against Portugal in Paris seems to have left no scar on the psyche of Marius Trésor, Olympique Marseille's fine young Guadeloupean defender — who came to them from Ajaccio. It was, indeed, against his old club, in Marseilles, that Trésor gave one of the most glorious all round performances that have yet been seen from him. He was as splendid when coming up into attack as he was in defence, and when injury obliged him to change from sweeper to left-back, he was no less effective. Let us hope he can reproduce this form in Moscow in the World Cup match against Russia at the Lenin Stadium. I have a feeling that he will.

It seems all but certain that Roger Magnusson, who has become a reserve de luxe for the second time in his unusual career, will leave Marseilles this summer. Some years ago, he spent a full season with Juventus, able to play only in European Cup games because of the ban on foreign footballers. Now at Marseilles he is a very highly paid reserve; and is chafing about it. He may go to Red Star, which would please him, but Red Star are not prepared to pay the earth. Nor does it seem at all likely now that Magnusson will become a naturalised Frenchman, as once seemed possible.

EUROPE

Dr. Fadrhonc chooses nine from Ajax

DR. FRANTISEK Fadrhonc watched Ajax brush off Real Madrid in the Semi-final of the European Cup and then decided their next opponents at international level should be . . . Spain!

The national coach included nine of the Ajax first team in his 16-man selection for last month's Holland-Spain friendly in Amsterdam—the whole side with the exception of goalkeeper Heinz Stuy and the ineligible West German Horst Blankenburg.

And there is no doubt why. Spain was the final try-out before meeting Iceland and Norway in World Cup qualifiers later in the year. While these encounters are a safe two points on paper their outcome could be the deciding factor in who goes to West Germany from Group Three, the Netherlands or Belgium. With a draw with Belgium already chalked up—and a second chess game likely on November 18—it is more than an outside chance that goal tallies will sort out the section winner.

What Dr. Fadrhonc needs therefore is a fiery football machine with an insatiable lust for making goals. Have no doubts, Holland has the manpower—the problem has always been a failure to harness it to the best advantage in those orange shirts. And if time for experiments is fast running out where's the harm in borrowing Professor Kovacs' success formula?

Selection

Fadrhonc borrowed the lot and the joke going the rounds is of how Heinz Stuy would have been in too if he could kick with both feet like PSV's Jan van Beveren. The selection was Suurbier, Hulshoff, Krol, Neeskens, Rep, Haan, Keizer, Cruyff and Gerrie Muhren (all Ajax); Schneider, Israel and van Hanegem (Feyenoord); Schrijvers and Pahlplatz (FC Twente) and MVV's striker, Willy Brokamp.

Who can haggle with a line-up like that? Fadrhonc is right. Of course he could not please everyone. Rene van de Kerkhof of FC Twente is one man none too pleased. He went out to give the 21-year-old Ajax right winger Johnny Rep his debut. And sharing his plight after the Ajax purge are brother Willy, Twente striker Jan Jeuring and Feyenoord midfield player Thee de Jong.

None of them are as sore as Willy Brokamp however. The No.1 league goal scorer as I write, he refused to play against Spain. The reason—too much Ajax say-so!

The trouble goes back to the Austria game on March 28 when he stayed on the bench the full 90 minutes. Fadrhonc had promised him at least half a game but, according to Brokamp, because of pressure from Keizer he left him out completely. Brokamp feels he should have been played and anyone who saw the doddering Dutch front line that day would agree.

He says: "I had a feeling something was in the air even then. And when I heard the selection to play Spain I knew what the Fadrhonc plan was. Under the circumstances I don't feel like playing. I am deeply disappointed to have to refuse but there have to be equal chances."

Willy Brokamp is a very unhappy man these days. Although playing like a demon for MVV he wants out. After him are Feyenoord and the Belgian Beerschot . . . and for Feyenoord it is not the first time. Last year they could have bought him for a moderate fee but were prepared to pay only a pittance. According to MVV trainer George Knobel they will live to regret their false economy. The asking price is thought to have doubled.

Going by current rates MVV would want at least £100,000. With Ladinszki off to Anderlecht, Feyenoord are likely to meet the price.

HOLLAND

by JOHN SPARROW

Is that a groan I hear emerging from the tribunes? Could well be. As I write a head-on clash looks imminent between management and members over the way the club is being run.

An investigatory body born of disillusion around the Rotterdam stadium, is pushing a massive shake-up. To begin it wants the club shaped into a business from the umbrella-like association it is now—the splitting of the pro from the amateur. And it wants more say for members and less behind-locked-doors activity from management.

Foresight

No onlooker could argue the shake-up is not overdue. The signs are obvious—mishandling of transfers, a bad scouting system, a neglected youth policy . . . above all a lack of foresight. And the price has been goodbye to the upper realms of European football and hello internal squabbles and dwindling crowds.

Meanwhile the club has poured out around £250,000 more than Ajax for its present team. The total bill is in the region of £630,000. Add to that the wage bill of £100,000 Kristensen, Israel, van Hanegem etc. and home gates can drop to around 21,000 are hardly return for money. The savings bank would yield more interest!

But thank heaven for small mercies—like Gerd Muller not signing for Feyenoord a year ago. The transfer fee would have been upwards of £260,000 and Mr. Muller wanted £53,000 a year tax free. Oh yes . . . and a salary and bonuses. What Bayern Munich pay him to stay put is food for thought. And laughter.

Suurbier—one of the Ajax players chosen for Holland's match with Spain.

EUROPE

HUNGARY

by LESLIE VERNON

WORLD CUP HOPES HIT AS AUSTRIA GAIN DRAW

OH calamity! Another draw, another disappointment, another football disaster on the horizon for Hungary. The World Cup qualifier v Austria was written-up by both countries' Press before the game as the "match of the year" with some justification and it was claimed that the previous 115 games (world record!) between them were mere preliminaries.

It is true that football matches in Austria are badly attended, and their best players are habitually transferred to rich professional clubs abroad. Under the unoriginal "now or never" banner, national team manager Leopold Stastny marched to Budapest, taking with him as many "foreign legionaires" as he could possibly muster.

Schmidradner and Parits from the *Bundesliga*, Kreuz and Hasil from Holland joined their fellow countrymen only a few days before the match, but Ajax refused to release Schilcher, and the Rapid Vienna ace, Geza Gallos, suffered a serious injury in a midweek match.

Stastny was criticised for allowing Gallos to play so shortly before this vital international, but the veteran coach remained calm and confident.

Protest

Rudolf Illovszky, his Hungarian counterpart, had no injury worries, and he also emphasised the importance of getting maximum points. The Hungarians were even thinking of lodging a protest to FIFA against the use of the legionaires by the Austrians, but as there was no possible basis for such a childish appeal, the idea was abandoned.

That such a silly move was even contemplated shows desperation, and indeed, this very same feeling dominated much of the Hungarians' football.

They opened nervously, and unpleasant fouling and obstruction characterised the first exchanges. In the 13th minute, a shrewd Balint through-ball was picked-up by Zambo, and the Dozsa player beat goalkeeper Koncillia from 10 metres. The celebrations had hardly died down when Starek equalised, with Geczi much too slow to react to danger—1-1!

The 25,000 Austrian visitors in the sold-out 80,000 crowd greeted the goal with fantastic enthusiasm, and their team responded with another goal inspired by Hasil and scored by Jara. In the interval, Pancsics, who had a very unhappy time at right full-back, was replaced by Fabian, while Varadi came-on for the ineffective Zambo.

The second-half was all Hungary, and Bene hit the post twice before Balint equalised in the 69th minute. Several players were booked by referee Kitabdjan (France) in the closing stages of the game, but the result—sadly for the home team—remained 2-2.

After the match, the main talking point was an incident between Krieger and Fazekas, and the Hungarians insisted that a penalty should have been given. But bulls-eyes on goalposts, penalties (missed or not awarded) do not win matches, and the depressing fact is that only Lajos Szucs and the two "Laszlos", Balint and Fazekas, played well for Hungary. The full-backs were uncertain, Kocsis spasmodic, while Bene and A. Dunai were marked out of the game by the hard-tackling Austrians.

Generally, the standard of football was satisfactory, and to use a popular phrase, it was "a good match". Exciting, keenly fought, plenty of goalmouth incidents. But it proved once again that the Hungarians are not equipped to play against the battle-hardened pros. of Western Europe.

Symptomatic

It was symptomatic that every report of the match mentioned the presence of the legionaires—not as an excuse, but as the reason for the partial failure. Why should the Hungarians be so terrified of four players who are certainly not world-beaters—Hasil cannot even find a permanent place in the Feyenoord side?

This self-doubt, lack of confidence, is the real malaise that's killing Hungarian football. They keep talking about "professionals" as though they themselves were real amateurs who play the game for fun. "Kidology" of the most harmful kind, because they are only kidding themselves.

I am convinced that, for instance, on this occasion, the Hungarian "amateurs" were offered larger bonuses than the Austrians. Not getting into the World Cup Finals would be a tragedy.

After missing Mexico, sitting on the sidelines in '74 could be a deadly blow for a country which not so long ago was hailed as the masters of football. Now, if Austria fail to win in Stockholm, Hungary will get another chance, but they might have to beat Sweden by at least three clear goals—in the Nepstadium. But, of course, the Swedes will also field "foreign" mercenaries, and their shadows might frighten the Magyars into submission!

Climax

The domestic picture is a happier one, with an excellent climax to the Cup competition. The two Budapest giants, Vasas and Honved, met in the Nepstadium, and Lajos Baroti's Vasas won 4-3 in extra-time. The winners lost Dr. Puskas before the game with cartilage trouble, and young midfield star Komjati was not available either.

Bela Varadi, who might be the next "big name" in Hungarian football, opened the scoring, Pal equalised, and Varadi, again, made it 2-1 at half-time. Kozma got a beautiful goal for Honved in the 55th minute, and further scores by Kovacs and Kozma again kept the disappointingly low crowd (10,000) entertained. Three all at full-time and Baroti brought on two fresh players to give his team renewed impetus.

Eight minutes into extra-time, Varadi completed his hat-trick following a free-kick, and Vasas won the Cup for the first time since 1955. Honved—as consolation prize—will be nominated for the UEFA-Cup next season.

Vasas: Tamas—Torek, Fabian, Lakinger, Ihasz, —Muller (Bazsanti), Kovacs, Vidats—Szabo, Gass (Szoke) Varadi.
Honved: Bicskei—Kelemen, Egervari, Sipos, Lukacs—Pal, Kocsis, Pinter—Puskas, Kozma, Meszos (Bodi). Ref. Somlai.

Regiona
be adopt

ONCE upon a time the attempts of deserving non-League clubs to enter the Football League were something of a crusade: a source of great interest and sympathy. At times it seemed it was easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for an outside club to enter the dubious Heaven — haven? — of the Football League. It took Peterborough United, heavily and generously supported by the Press, many years. When they did get there they badly blotted their copybook by demanding money for interviews and the like, retorting memorably to outraged journalists that had it not been for the Press campaign, they'd have got into the League much earlier. This destroyed any sympathy I had for Peterborough, and now I don't care a curse what happens to them.

The odd thing is that, old habits dying hard, amputated limbs still tending mysteriously to ache and twitch, the last months of the season still see a flurry of electioneering among non-League clubs, hoping to climb into the Fourth Division. I have recently been sent an interesting brochure by Kettering Town, and an invitation to a reception by Yeovil Town, splendid Cup fighters ever since the 1940s and the managerial days of Alec Stock; no mean performer for them at inside-left.

Jose Altafini of Juventus.

I have a regard, too, for Kettering Town; was it not from Kettering that Eddie Hapgood stepped forth, fully armed, to a long and brilliant career as the Arsenal left-back?

Yet their efforts to enter the League seem to me of massive irrelevance, for the League is surely in a state of active disintegration. What happens at the very bottom can be of only the most marginal relevance, when the tendency so clearly is towards nothing but the best, a sublime lack of public interest in what goes on below the summits; and not always any vast interest in what transpires upon them.

Ludicrous

That the admirable little Hereford United should want to get into the League, and should, on the basis of good support and a wonderful Cup run, succeed, is understandable. But now that they are there, what a ludicrous position they find themselves in! They, deep down in the South West, must travel to places as distant as Workington and Hartlepools. Sheer lunacy! When the Third Divisions North and South were de-zoned some fifteen years ago, it was perhaps the most abysmally inept and near sighted decision taken even by that myopic body, the Football League. Why, at this moment when the fans are fleeing the terraces and only a handful of League clubs are economically sound, small, weak clubs with no ultimate prospects should want to get into a non-regional competition is beyond me.

What, for example, have Cambridge United done of the slightest note or importance since that cunning publicity campaign which lifted them into the League? What, ultimately, can Hereford hope to do, beyond the Third Division?

I have said before, and I say again, that there is no reason why the Football League should not have an infinity of clubs, provided those clubs play for the most part in heavily regionalised divisions, as they do in Italy. There seems to me, at this moment in the history of the game, everything to be gained by such a disposition. The mirage, the chimera if you wish, of the First Division, might lead people to watch clubs which at present play in such dead ends and backwaters as the Southern League. Moreover, the belated making honest men of the senior shamateur clubs means that these, too, will need a new rationale.

It is quite possible that within ten years, the way things are going, we shall have a zoned *Second* Division, let alone a Third and Fourth. The First Division itself must surely be cut down severely in the near future. To my mind, sixteen clubs, as in the Italian *Serie A*, would be more than enough. Meanwhile, it is extraordinary that the Football League should cling to an outmoded exclusivism and restrict the size of the League in perpetuity to 92 clubs. That League would be neither weakened nor diluted were it to expand — on regional lines. While it remains at 92 clubs, while the Third and Fourth Divisions remain suicidally, national rather than regional, the Gadarene rush of non-League clubs to join this decomposing family remains something for the psychopathologist.

Unhappy

Derby County's unhappy defeat by Juventus in Turin, in the first leg of the European Cup semi-final, left me wondering less about whether or not the referee had been suborned (his officiating made no difference whatsoever to the result of the match Derby could have lost 5-1) but to what extent our defensive systems are effective.

One Italian critic marvelled at the fact that whenever Altafini got the ball

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near goal, he was faced by only one defender to beat. This he did with ease on the occasion of his second, superbly taken, goal, while on the occasion of his first, there was none to beat at all, bar the goalkeeper. Wally Barnes, the former Wales and Arsenal full-back — a fine one, too — was severely critical of David Nish, over the first goal. I did not share his view, having actually been at the match as opposed to seeing the incident merely on television, but our disagreement increased my scepticism about Derby's defensive tactics; and, by extension, British football's at large.

Unmarked

You may remember that the first goal came when Anastasi beat Webster out on the right, moved in towards goal, drawing McFarland, then gave the ball to the unmarked Altafini, who deftly put it away. In Barnes' view, Nish should have been across to cover his centre-half. He himself played in the days of the third back game when the four in line defence was unknown, and zonal cover was the rule. I am quite sure that had this been an Arsenal defence of the 1940s and had Barnes been the left-back, big Leslie Compton the centre-half, then Wally would indeed have been across to make his tackle.

But the four in line defence means that the full-back, though still obliged to cover, plays farther out on the flank, with one of the two centre-backs, theoretically at least, at his side. It might, then, be argued that Colin Todd — who had a magnificent game in Turin — should have been picking up Altafini, rather than Nish.

More to the point, perhaps, is the fact that an English sweeper is not really a sweeper at all, the term being used in a most sloppy and misleading manner. The essance of a sweeper-up is that he does precisely that; operates behind the back four, sweeping up whatever happens to get through them. Todd doesn't do that, any more than does Bobby Moore, another so called sweeper. He picks up one of the two strikers through the middle, while the nominal centre-half picks up the other.

Derby's allegedly defensive 4-4-2, organised on this basis, was, in fact, disastrously weak — defensively. Juventus not only scored three good goals; they also hit the post, had two shots cleared off the line, and missed one of the best chances of the game through Causio, when he shot over the bar in the first half. Some defence!

The truth is that when you are playing against strikers of the tremendous quality of Altafini and Anastasi, a shallow defence and vague zonal cover just isn't enough. You simply must have a defender in reserve to budget for the inevitable occasions when such players beat the man who is marking them.

Heaven preserve us from the horrors of Italian type *catenaccio;* but let it be noted that in an almost Adlerian process of over-compensation, that murky system has bred a new race of forwards, quite capable of taking on two and three defenders at a time. No wonder teams need a sweeper to help to contain them. Make that sweeper a dynamic contributor, after the fashion of Ajax and West Germany, and perhaps you have the making of an ideal compromise.

Roberto Bettega and Sandro Salvardore of Juventus and Kevin Hector of Derby.

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

Juvent shock snatch

APART from a few thousand Italians, the bulk of Europe expects Dutch champions Ajax to beat Juventus in the European Cup Final and stretch their record to three consecutive victories. Yet, despite my admiration for Ajax and their undoubted skill, I have no doubt that Juventus are going to put them through the most strenuous examination before they surrender. I'll put it a little stronger and say that I would not be at all surprised if Juventus beat them in Belgrade.

For the purists, Ajax are clearly the team of the moment and despite spurious claims from Yorkshire they are I believe the only side at the moment capable of emulating Real Madrid's five year reign. Certainly no other European team since Real Madrid has stirred up so much international admiration as Ajax and the quality of their football, with Cruyff and Keizer shining, is beyond question.

Ajax have everything going for them for, like Madrid in their hey-day, they have a relatively short league programme that contains a great many matches against inferior opposition. This makes it possible for them to conserve their mental and physical reserves for the *Copa Europa* for apart from Feyenoord, Twente FC and Sparta no one in Holland can really make them go.

Problem position

Even Cruyff and Keizer pale, in my view, by comparison with Di Stefano and Puskas but on the other hand, Ajax have a better balanced side in which the skills are well spread. They are nowhere near as dependent on their stars as Real Madrid were on Di Stefano and Puskas. Neither do they carry any passengers or weaknesses apart from goalkeeper Stuy who is in my opinion their only real problem position.

But if Ajax are highly skilled and have a depth of reserve talent that Real never had it is by no means superior in quality to Roberto Bettega now happily fit again and Helmut Haller, neither of whom can command a regular place in the Juventus side.

While Ajax weathered a shaky start to their league programme, survived a period when Cruyff was clearly not fit and have taken the Dutch title again with comparative ease, Juventus have battled to within touching distance of retaining the Italian championship. At the same time they have survived in my view a far more difficult path than Ajax in the European Cup.

Bayern Munchen might well have tested Ajax more severely had Gerd Muller not played against them with a fractured bone in his leg while goalkeeper Maier chose that particular day in Amsterdam to prove what most of us long suspected—that he is by no means a top class goalkeeper. In that first leg against the Germans, Ajax demonstrated that they can be taken by a compact well organised counter-attacking team. In the first half particularly there were moments when Bayern could, and perhaps should, have scored against the run of play.

To reach the final, Juventus have had to face two really severe tests of character in being paired with Ujpest Dozsa and Derby County. In their different ways each side presented real problems.

JUVENTUS . . . back row, left to right: Salvadore, Morini, Zoff, Haller, Spinosi. Front: Capello, Causio, Cuccureddu, Anastasi, Bettega, Furino.

preview by ERIC BATTY

us could Ajax and victory

Ujpest, though perhaps underrated, are one of the most compact and skilful sides in Europe and after a goal-less draw against Juventus in Turin they took an early 2-0 lead in return. Facing a side that has all the talents to play the possession game it was a real test of character for Juventus to come back, level the scores and go through on away goals.

Similarly the Italians visit to Derby was another big hurdle despite their two goal lead and the absence of Gemmill and McFarlane. Derby, as Arsenal did before them (against Ajax) finally panicked when the crisis came and if they missed a penalty, it must be recognised that the quick counter attacks by Juventus could have produced a goal. Half a dozen times the Italians broke away to produce potentially more dangerous situations than Derby managed despite all their pressure.

Ajax, despite their reign as recognised top dogs in Europe, have seldom been placed under real pressure. On one such rare occasion they visited Arsenal in London with a bare 2-1 advantage and their apprehension clearly showed in their early play. It was not until they were presented with a gift goal by Graham that gave them the lead on the night that the Dutchmen really settled to play the kind of quality football that has made them famous. Cruyff and Co proved that night that they are human and as such are not infallible.

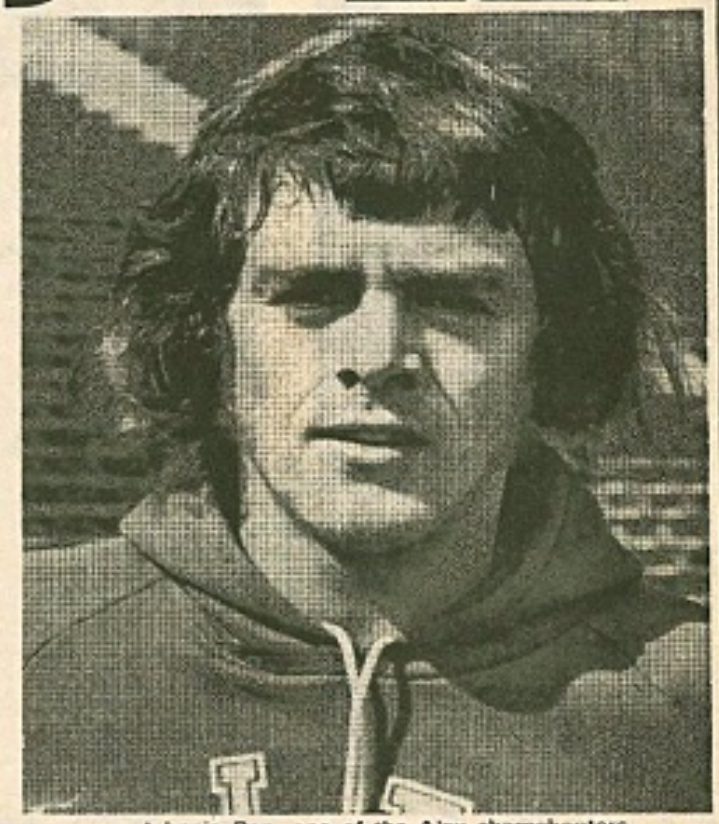
Counter attacks

In Belgrade, Ajax will without doubt face their greatest test to date for I cannot imagine that Juventus will play anything but their tight cat and mouse game based on defence and quick counter attacks. This, of course, is not new to Ajax and significantly though already an outstandingly gifted side they fell to AC Milan in the 1969 final by 4-1. They paid the penalty that night for carrying the game to the Italians and laid themselves open to well conceived and brilliantly executed counter attacks.

In theory they faced a similar test a year ago in Rotterdam when they met Inter in the final but on this particular occasion the Italians never really got into the game. Ultra-cautious, they were not prepared to throw players forward when the opportunities presented themselves and in attack their spearheads consistently refused to respond to the promptings of their only outstanding player—Mazzola.

Assuming that both teams will be at full strength in Belgrade and at something like their peak, the outcome, given firm refereeing could be a revelation. Each side in its own different way will try to impose its rhythm on the game and the result could well be determined by one or two key players on either side who rise to the occasion and take scoring chances.

Ajax's pattern of play is in a sense no less cautious than that of the Italians. While Juventus mark tight man for man and will almost certainly retreat to their own penalty area before offering a real challenge, the Dutchmen are not as many think a side that



Johnnie Rep, one of the Ajax sharpshooters.

throws caution to the winds and pushes the ball and players forward with gay abandon. They defend, not so much in numbers but with skill—by playing the ball around between them, keeping possession while trying to go forward but wise enough to know when they would merely be giving the ball away. This is what Cruyff & Co have learned since that final of 1969.

One bad pass by an Ajax player—or a good interception by a Juventus defender—could open the door to a rapidly executed counter attack. Hence the clearly expressed belief of Ajax: if you can't go forward or play forward with certainty it is better to turn and play the ball back to one of the back four players whose supporting role is always to get themselves free in space. It will be cat and mouse all right but it will be the players, as individuals and collectively who will determine who is the cat.

PICTURE PARADE

Story by Philip Rising . . .

Liverpool manager Bill Shankly . . . and the Liverpool Kop.

I AM a long, and unstinting, admirer of Leeds United. I thought they would win the 1973 FA Cup with half-a-dozen goals to spare. I was wrong. There can be no denying that Sunderland thoroughly deserved to win the Cup—on the day they put Leeds out of their stride and were worthy winners.

Yet I was more disappointed with Leeds than overjoyed by Sunderland's display. Whatever the achievements of the opposition, I didn't think Leeds could play as badly as they did. Lorimer, Jones, Clarke, Gray and Giles were pale shadows of their usual selves. Even so, Leeds could, and should, have scored and perhaps the final result would have been very different.

At the risk of being accused of blatant bias, I thought Leeds had the worst of some dubious refereeing decisions by Ken Burns. How he came to book Allan Clarke for an innocuous foul—after Clarke himself had been brutally floored in the opening minutes—remains a mystery to me.

Dave Watson, the Sunderland centre half, was unquestionably the man-of-the-match and must have enhanced his claims to international recognition. Let's hope he doesn't have to wait in the sidelines as long as people like Kevin Hector of Derby County—for my money one of the season's outstanding forwards. Hector has speed, guile and a natural eye for goal but to date his performances seem to have broken no ice with Sir Alf Ramsey.

I also find it impossible to comprehend why the ban on Colin Todd appearing for England is allowed to continue. He has served a year—surely that is enough? Todd was superb for Derby last season and one day is going to be an established international. He should be just that already yet his international career is not even off the ground. What a waste of genuine talent.

My congratulations to Liverpool, Champions of the Football League for a ninth time. Who can argue with their right to the crown . . . over 42 matches they consistently proved themselves the best team in the country. And no manager deserves to succeed more than Bill Shankly. I could listen to him all night!

Since 1966, when Liverpool last won the title, he has completely rebuilt his side. Yet throughout the transition period Liverpool remained in the elite class.

There are those who have been quick to suggest, since the Cup Final, that Leeds must now undergo similar radical changes. Obviously the time is approaching when new blood will have to be introduced but the

Sunderland manager Bob Stokoe, arms aloft, after his team's sensational FA Cup victory. Ian Porterfield (left) scored the winning goal, Dave Watson (with Cup) was man of the match, and Dennis Tuart (right).

Emlyn Hughes (left) and Phil Thompson of Liverpool with the Football League championship trophy.

Dave Clements scores from the penalty spot for Northern Ireland against England.

Bobby Charlton—walking sadly off the field at Chelsea after his last Football League appearance for Manchester United.

retirement of Jackie Charlton is not, surely, the signal for a complete overhaul.

Anyone would think Leeds have been failures this year; third in the League, beaten FA Cup Finalists and beaten European Cup Winners Finalists is not failure in my book. They have been runners-up ten times in major competitions during the past nine years—in addition to winning the League, the FA Cup, The Football League Cup and the UEFA Cup.

The team is not ready to be pensioned off. Is anyone suggesting that Lorimer, Jones, Clarke, Gray, Madeley, Hunter, Harvey, Reaney and Cherry are over the hill? The fact that Bremner and Giles were off-key at Wembley doesn't mean they're ready to hang up their boots either. Leeds have a healthy habit of bouncing back. They will do so again.

Jack Charlton's farewell was a poignant occasion. When I watched football as a kid Bobby Charlton was my favourite. I suppose he still was until he bowed out at Chelsea. Thousands of words of tribute have been written about Bobby since he announced his retirement and I endorse every one.

Jack, of course, lived under Bobby's shadow for a long time. But once he had emerged, and established himself, Jack endeared himself to the hearts of the British public just as his brother had done. They are vastly different, but Jack's candidness, humour and straight talking made him a big favourite off the field as well as on.

Both the Charltons will be sadly missed as players . . . one can only hope they prove as successful as managers with Preston and Middlesbrough in the months to come.

The rival TV companies had their usual battle for audiences on Cup Final day. From what I saw, the previous day and on the morning of the Final, ITV's presentation was superior.

Their TV panel—although proved hopelessly inaccurate in their pre-match predictions—is so much more lively, humerous and inventive than their BBC counterparts.

'Square-eyes' Martin Tyler watches three games — at the flick of a switch

Too much TV? What about the Belgians?

THE headline in the Brussels paper said it all: Quel choix ce soir a la tele . . .! What a choice indeed. Had I been able to to muster up three televisions, I would have been able to watch, as much as one pair of eyes would permit, three top European games live.

One Belgian channel offered Real Madrid against Ajax. The second was presenting Derby versus Juventus, the other European Cup semi-final second leg. While the easily accessible Dutch station screened the U.E.F.A. Cup semi-final between F.C. Twente and Borrussia Monchengladbach.

What would the advocates of too much televised football in Britain have made of that European feast? But, the glut of matches apart, there seemed another principal involved. Disregarding the Dutch match, Belgian television had decided that the two European Cup semi-finals were worthy of coverage even though there was no team from their country involved. The quality of the football would be enough to ensure an audience of worthwhile proportions.

Clashes

That is a point of view not yet accepted by British television. Snatches at Saturday lunchtime were the most we saw of the Ajax-Bayern Munich clashes, universally regarded as the European tie of the year, if not of the decade.

I asked John Bromley, Head of Sport at London Weekend Television, what he thought of that Belgian bill of fare: "There are two sides to the question—the live transmission and the matches not involving Belgian clubs. The first point is quite clear. We are very restricted to the amount of live coverage we can give the game. There's the Cup Final, the European Cup Final, part of the Home International Championship and this year we are showing England versus Scotland at schoolboy international level. This is not likely to change at the moment.

"In theory, though, there is nothing to stop us showing edited highlights of a top European game as one of our permitted midweek spots. But you must appreciate the problems, here. The BBC and the ITA are allowed 28 midweek transmissions; that gives us 14. And we take it in turns to choose matches, which has to be done a couple of months in advance. So you have to be careful not to use up all your allocation if there are still important games to come. Therefore a game between two sides from abroad could be a mistake if it meant we missed out on a top British match.

"But we are not really convinced that this is what our viewers want anyway. The interest in domestic teams is still overwhelming."

Nevertheless at a time when Ajax can rightly claim to be the best club side in Europe, West Germany are arguably the top European national side and Brazil are champions of the world, London Weekend Television have taken the first steps towards widening the outlook of the British viewer.

Every Saturday their "On the Ball" slot has an international section which has educated fans not usually given to considering events that happen far from Liverpool, Leicester or Luton.

It was an idea born out of the coverage of the 1970 World Cup. But significantly it grew because of audience reaction. One memorable goal by Sandro Mazzola in which he juggled the ball around the penalty area before thrashing it past the Switzerland goalkeeper brought in hundreds of requests for repeat showings.

Operation

Since then action from all parts of the world has been accumulated for the programme. It is an operation not without hazards. Though both BBC and independent television have persuaded the Eurovision news agency, where all countries' televised news is exchanged, to cover sport, it isn't always easy to make the best use of it.

The Eurovision material often arrives over the air, but without the best details of the game. Other cans of film or videotape are flown in, but again without captions or match comments. Here World Soccer correspondents Jack Rollin, at the BBC, and Leslie Vernon, at London Weekend, lend their expertise.

London Weekend pay about £50 for right to screen up to a couple of minutes of each foreign game. They paid considerably more to secure the services of Johan Cruyff as their special attraction for the FA Cup Final. That a foreign player should be brought in above the endless succession of managers, players and former Wembley heroes is certainly a testimony to a widening of the frontiers of televised football.

Cruyff thoroughly enjoyed the experience, which was only possible because suspension ruled him out of Ajax's match with Sparta Rotterdam. Amongst the professional punditry of Messrs Allison, Crerand and Co., he held his own extremely well in English that rarely faltered. There could be no missing too, the overt enthusiasm with which the "panel" questioned Cruyff on his outlook on football in general.

The professionals have realised ahead of the ordinary viewer, the value of watching action from the continent. London Weekend put on a private showing of the entire Bayern Munich-Ajax second leg and Bertie Mee and Dave Sexton led the charge of managers and coaches to watch it. As Mee said: "You always learn something from these games and of course we hope to be meeting teams of this calibre in Europe. In which case, the more we know about them the better."

Those in the game will be pleased to know then that London Weekend will be making every effort to show all sixteen qualifying nations for Munich as soon as each group is decided. And I recommend viewers who want to drain every drop of satisfaction out of the blanket World Cup transmissions to do their homework in the same way.

London Weekend speak for every television company when they say that "as well as being entertaining we aim to instruct." This applies to football as it does to politics or flower arranging. And as long as the world game continues to produce players and teams of genuine class, everyone with an interest in football has something to learn.

And if you're green with envy at what the Belgians could watch that Wednesday after Easter and you are not prepared to commute to the continent, write to the television companies and let them know. Otherwise Ajax and their successors will continue to set the standards away from our telesight.

AMANCIO

Player Portrait by Norman Cutler

TWO years ago at the age of 30, they said Amancio was past it, that in 1974 — at 34 — he would miss the World Cup, that his club and international career were almost over and that Real Madrid had better start looking around for a replacement.

Real found their replacement last summer — a better one than they ever dreamed — in 19-year-old Santillana. But now they didn't really want one, as Spain's captaincy, most league and international games, the World Cup (Kubala took a chance three years ago) have been built round Amancio.

This season the old wolf has entered his second childhood . . . football wise.

He is still the most dangerous forward the country has ever had and Real have publicly shown their faith in him at the most phychological time, the eve of the second leg of the European Cup against Ajax, which with Santillana injured meant that Amancio bore the whole brunt of the attack.

It was like old times to see the old wolf growling and rampaging round the field, wrecking the Ajax well-laid defence, serving the outside-left Aguilar and sweeping the way for the irresistible Pirri. It's quite something to see Amancio back in form and to realise that he is still worth the £450,0000 which intermediaries for Italian Clubs were prepared to pay several years ago.

Organiser

In the European Cup semi-final, Amancio took on the Ajax defence by himself, which was too much for any man.

The man who re-made Amancio for Spain, for Real, for European Football and for himself . . . was Miguel Muñoz, Real Madrid's long-serving team manager.

His technique was simple — he moved Amancio from a striker position, where although scoring goals he was a marked man and getting kicked to pieces each week, when it almost seemed as if opposing managers said to their players: "Amancio is the best forward in Spain, clog him and you will have no trouble with the rest." And his legs from thighs to ankles always reveal how far Amancio has been in the fray.

Now, often in the centre of the field, he is the organiser, general of the team, for his distributing of the ball, splitting of defences with his low sleek passes, servicing Santillana and sending Pirri and Aguilar zig-zagging across the field is a new Amancio that is responsible for Real's revival.

Real Madrid, back row left to right: Garcia Remon, Tourino, Benito, Verdugo, Gresso, Zoco. Front: Aguilar, Amancio, Santillana, Velazquez, Anzarda.

The new Amancio says: "I'm now enjoying football again. It was becoming impossible to play properly. Having changed position I am glad to be playing the game again. I have such grand illusions and enthusiasm that I am working in with the young players much better than I, or Manager Muñoz ever thought I would. I find that I can keep calm and relaxed." (Amancio never did like being irritated and other teams have found over the years that irritation is the easiest way to put him off his game.)

Amancia adds: "I have no regrets about changing, I shall score less goals than before, but will certainly be able to make more."

Registered

Officially known as "Amancio" and registered in this name, it is his christian name. Anyone who refers to him as Amaro or Varela is wrong. But "El Gallego" is a more affectionate name, for he was born in Coruña in Galicia, the modest northern Province, and comes from a modest family. (His father was a coach builder in the Coruña Park of Artillery).

In his juvenile days he played for Vittoria, Santa Lucia and gained his first honours playing for the Selection of the West in Vigo.

At that time a coach advised him to give up football. "You're just wasting your time . . . you'll never get anywhere," he was told. But soon propositions began to arrive from various clubs, including Celta, Coruña and later Real Madrid.

When Amancio first went to Real in 1962/63, the club paid Coruña 10 million pesetas (approximately £70,000) and four players . . . Betancort, Antonio Ruiz, Michi and Celdrain . . . for his transfer.

Improved

Says Amancio: "I knew about football when I joined Read Madrid, but with the aid of Miguel Muñoz and Santiago Bernabeu — to whom I owe everything — I have improved a thousand times since and I'm a different man in every way."

Amancio was first capped against Rumania on November 25, 1962, and since has appeared on 83 occasions in Spain's colours. He is the leading international goal scorer and league leader between 1963-69.

Amancio says he will stay with Real Madrid until he gives up football.

The amazing thing is that the return to form of Amancio and the moving of Zoco to help him in midfields has inspired the sensational rejuvenation of both Zoco and Pirri, who are playing far better than in the glorious sixties.

Poland face England at Chorzow

CAN P TO THE

MILLIONS of fans in England and in Poland will be anxiously awaiting the outcome of the World Cup qualifying tie between their national teams on June 6 at Chorzów. A victory for Poland will throw this Group 5 wide open. A win for England will almost certainly send Sir Alf Ramsey's men into the final series in West Germany next year. The Poles suffered a setback by losing their opening match 0-2 in Wales. But having spent nearly three days in Cardiff, in the constant company of the Polish team manager Kazimierz Górski, his assistant Jacek Gmoch and their players, I am convinced that England will have to be at its very best to survive in the cauldron of the Slaski stadium, before a passionate crowd of 100,000.

The Poles are under no illusions about their task, but they are determined to qualify for the finals for the first time since 1938, when incidentally they created something of a record: they scored in effect five goals against Brazil —yet were still eliminated from the competition, having lost 6-5 after extra time! In this match, one of Poland's greatest-ever footballers, Ernest Wilimowski, experienced both the ecstasy and the agony of triumph and disaster. He alone scored four goals against the brilliant South Americans, but alas, it was not enough!

If ever a team grabbed glory in defeat, then it was that Polish eleven in that fantastic match on a French ground at Strasbourg. Can the Poles similarly rise to the occasion against England, next month, and write another proud chapter in the history of Polish soccer?

Technical

One quality they will not lack is courage. For fighting spirit can be justly described as an outstanding national characteristic. For centuries the Poles have had to fight to repel foreign invaders like the Prussians, Lithouanians, Tartars, Russians and Austrians. And thus Polish footballers were at first better known for their bravery, determination and fitness, rather than technical skills and artistry. Since the war, however, a number of Czech and Hungarian coaches have helped to raise the standards of Polish clubs and players.

Today their style can be described as a mixture of athletic application, copied from the Germans and Russians, with the ball-playing talent of their southern neighbours the Hungarians and Czechs. For a long time this trend to imitate others, rather than to develop its own style, has hampered the expansion and progress of their game. Only recently the Polish football discovered its own identity.

Soccer became properly organised in Poland soon after World War I, at the conclusion of which the country had regained its independence after nearly two centuries of foreign rule. The most important footballing centres were in Silesia, that rich coal-producing area where they bred youngsters toughened up in the mines, then in the capital city Warsaw, in Kraków, Poznan and Lwów. Poland was free after 1918, but greatly impoverished.

In the principal industrial centres a recession was followed by large-scale unemployment. Polish workers, especially the miners, embarked in their thousands on a whole scale migration to the West, where most of them settled down in the coalmining regions of Belgium, France and Germany. There their descendants soon became assimilated into the local communities, and, of course, into the sporting activities.

Generation

The next generation—after World War II—produced footballers born in those countries of Polish parents. Currently, about ten per cent of the professionals in the French First Division are of Polish extraction. The possibly greatest French player of all time was Polish-born Raymond Kopaszewski, who shortened his name to Kopa, to make it easier for the French to pronounce.

Kopa was a star with Rheims, but in 1956 he joined Real Madrid, with whom he gained three European Cup winners medals. When France played Northern Ireland in 1953, four of their men — Kopa, Ruminski, Cisowski and Curvi— were of Polish origin. And even against Poland, in 1962, the French fielded four of their "compatriots" in Rodzik, Kopa, Théo and Koza!

In Germany's industrial Ruhr district of Westphalia, where most of the Polish emigrés settled, they produced many German internationals. In the 1958 World Cup series in Sweden, the Germans playing for third place against France included these Polish-born stars: Szymaniak, Kelbassa, Kwiatkowski and Cieslarczyk. And facing them, for France, starred the "Poles" Kopa and Wisnieski!

Other famous descendants of Polish migrants were Tilkowski, Germany's World Cup goalkeeper in 1966, Piontek, Jagielski, Kobierski and Nowka, to name but a few. Despite this exodus of their young working population, Poland managed to organise her football and in the 1930's the Silesian coal-pot became the stronghold of the game. Ruch Chorzów, who won the Polish championship nine times, were the leading side of that period. Small wonder since they boasted the all-international forward line with Urban, Giemza, Peterek, Wilimowski and Wodarz.

But the outbreak of World War II had inevitably caused a total disintegration of Polish sport. Because the Western Provinces, including Silesia, had remained under German rule from 1793 till 1918, many people there were of mixed blood and many had switched their allegiance to the Germans, with whom they felt as much related as with the Poles!

Thus a number of players had joined German clubs after 1939, including the great Ernest Wilimowski. He in fact was given automatically German citizenship, and even earned eight German caps, scoring 13 goals, including four against Switzerland, plus a hat-trick v. Finland. Wilimowski, incidentally, played for no fewer than 12 German clubs! And he is today a prosperous publican in Offenburg, near the famous Black Forest in south-west Germany.

Holocaust

The war had ravaged Poland more than any other land. Nearly 20 per cent of its population of 35 million had perished in the holocaust. The Polish sportsmen had to start virtually from scratch in 1945. The government fortunately lent a hand, so that in the 'fifties two magnificent stadiums were built. In Chorzów the aforementioned "Slaski" ground, which holds over 100,000 and in Warsaw the "Ten-year stadium", also for 100,000 spectators. Polish clubs soon resumed their activities with many clubs retaining their pre-war names like Legia Warsaw, Ruch Chorzów, Wisla Kraków, LKS Lódz, etc.

But the best team to emerge in that period was Górnik — the word means miner in Polish—from the colliery town of Zabrze. Górnik was founded in 1948, from an amalgamation of six local clubs. Apart from football, the club also caters for gymnastics, atheltics, basketball, volleyball, swimming, weight lifting, tennis, wrestling, table tennis, chess and bridge! Each of these forms its own section within this multi-sports social club.

on June 6... Arthur Rotmil reports

OLES RISE OCCASION?

Practically all their players are connected with the local collieries, where most of them are employed. Basically they are amateurs, although the footballers do receive reimbursements for loss of earnings during absence from work and this is met by the patrons of the Górnik club and they are in fact the local Coal Board! Górnik are Poland's internationally most experienced outfit, having participated in eight European Cups, plus two Cup Winners' Cup tournaments.

Floodlights

In their first European venture they met Tottenham, who had just achieved the first Cup and League "double" this century in England. But the Polish champions were not overawed by reputations. In the home leg at Chorzów the Poles stormed to a 4-0 lead and only after some dreadful tackles had reduced their side to nine fit men, did they concede two late goals, still winning 4-2. But in the return, playing for the first time under floodlights, and clearly upset by the claustrophobic conditions and a baying, fanatical crowd, Górnik slumped to an 8-1 defeat.

The Poles learned quickly and just a few years later, also in the Champions Cup, Górnik put out the Russian crack team Dynamo Kiev, who had just conquered the newly crowned European Cup winners Celtic, by beating them in Russia by 2-1! In 1969-70 Górnik disposed of Glasgow Rangers, winning both legs by the same score of 3-1. And in that season Górnik became the first Polish side to reach a European final.

It was the Cup Winners' Cup competition in which they narrowly failed against Manchester City in Vienna by 1-2. In that same most successful year for Polish club football, their champions Legia Warsaw reached the semi-final of the Champions Cup losing on a 0-2 aggregate to the eventual winners of the trophy, Feyenoord of Holland. It must be remembered, of course, that in common with other Eastern European clubs the Poles, too, are severely handicapped through their long winter break when snow, ice and frost do not permit any football here, between roughly the end of November and early March.

Jerry Gorgon of Poland, pictured in action against John Toshack of Wales at Ninan Park.

Górnik have produced the two finest Polish players of the post-war era in Ernest Pohl and Wlodzimierz Lubanski. By a strange coincidence, the three greatest footballers of Poland—including Wilimowski—were all prolific strikers, who all wore the number 10 shirt.

As this country had began to mourn the retirement of the superbly skilled Pohl, so the brilliant Lubanski burst on the scene. He was first capped at the age of 16 and today at 26 he holds the Polish record with 63 international appearances.

Stupefied

The Polish national side has also made great strides in recent years. Among their victims for instance were Scotland, whom Poland beat 2-1 in a World Cup qualifying tie in 1965 at Hampden Park before a crowd of 108,000 utterly stupefied Scots. A year later, the Poles held England to a 1-1 draw at Liverpool. In 1970 Poland defeated Russia in Moscow by 2-0, whilst in 1971 they earned a 0-0 in the European Championship tie at Hamburg, on the home ground of the current title holders West Germany.

Poland's greatest achievement was the triumph in the Olympic Games tournament in Munich, when on the way to the gold medals the Poles crushed the full national teams of East Germany, Russia and Hungary! The pupils had indeed caught up with their professors. Poland belongs quite clearly to those emerging countries where the overall standards at all levels have been improving immensely in recent years.

They have suffered in the past from lack of confidence in their own ability. The various misfortunes throughout their proud history have created among many Poles a fatalistic attitude. "We are not good enough", has been a cry heard more often here than the "We can do it" resolve.

But the recent run of success should help them to overcome this weakness. It might also set Poland on the path to the highest honours in football.

'THE KING' STEPS DOWN

by ERIC THORNTON

THE King has stepped down. Now today, and on behalf of thousands of faithful subjects, the power behind the throne is preparing a farewell which will no doubt enable everyone present to go home, and tell the wife they've seen everything.

Take it from someone who has watched major sporting spectacles in all parts of the world, that the forthcoming curtain for Denis Law, one-time hero of Scotland, teenage prodigy of Huddersfield Town, successive record signing by Manchester City, Torino, and Manchester United, and inspiration for headline writers, is going to be one to remember.

So it should be. For here we have a terrific personality whose name was long ago written in letters of gold alongside the greatest, and backed with references from such as Sir Matt Busby, Andy Beattie, Bill Shankly, and, if you please, Gigi Peronace.

The story of this fantastic footballer who was often a scoring riot, really requires a complete book for retailing. Because it concerns the unpromising early circumstances of a bespectacled boy who rose to sky-high standards, then turned a great industrial city upside down, crossed a continent, and returned majestically to make the sporting news all over again.

In the beginning, Shankly, boss of Huddersfield, in those days, threw Law in at the deep end as a 16-year-old amateur for a Christmas battle with Notts County, at Meadow Lane, and those who defied the elements saw a gangling, tireless soccer product with schoolboy freshness still on well-filled cheeks, nip smartly in and out of spellbound defences.

Yet it was not until a third round cup replay with West Ham, in the January of 1960, that the Law-man arrived. Then, with magnificent balance and perfect control on a pitch better suited to skating, he staggered the Upton Park hordes by tearing The Hammers apart.

The grapevine worked overtime. Dozens of clubs had signing ideas. Shankly said there would never be a parting, but, of course, the Huddersfield board had its price, and that was what really mattered, as it always does.

Manchester City beat the rest with an all time figure of £55,000, but within a mere 15 months Torino had handed over £110,000, and Denis was departing for Italian skies, happy in the prospect though still annoyed over a fourth round cup-tie at Luton, where the referee had scored off his six of the best by abandoning the game for foul weather.

Law and Joe Baker lived together in Turin, where I kept them in touch with the British way of life with long letters and football papers, while they, in turn, moaned about a luxury flat which was almost a prison. For cinemas were out because of autograph hunters, bar visits usually ended up with exaggerated reports, and Italian mags meant nothing through being printed in a lingo they didn't understand. The loneliness was Hell.

Speculation

So back he came. But this time he took the bus for Old Trafford, United having gone higher than the rest and paid £116,000 for the Scot's services. Some folk wondered about the wisdom of the transaction, but Law ended all speculation with 23 goals in 38 League games, and the bonus of another which helped the boys carry off the F.A. Cup at Leicester City's expense in 1963.

Years of great performance followed until it seemed as if the parting of the ways had been reached in 1970, when the club made him available at £60,000, but later changed its mind when he asked to come off the list.

I'll always remember the beauty he scored on his first full international for Scotland against Wales, at Ninian Park, when Herd was in the No. 9 spot, Bobby Collins was at inside-right, Dave MacKay and Tommy Docherty were the wing-halves.

Then there was the Hampden game with Ireland: he was home in his country's blue shirt before family and friends for the first time—and blunted the effectiveness of Danny Blanchflower.

Now, at 33, the man who has reigned so long at Old Trafford, and had the amazing ability to send the rabid Stretford Enders into a seventh Heaven of delight, or plunge them into the depths of misery, is wondering about the future at a neat villa home in Chorltonville.

Maybe the Aberdonian Laws will return home. Or move to the town of another club. Or stay put in the city where the family now has its roots and its many good friends . . ..

PERSONAL OPINION

by LESLIE VERNON

A question of slanting the season's statistics...

A FOOTBALL season of confused impressions is nearly over, and one faces an unusually difficult dilemma when trying to work out the balance sheet. People talk about a "winter of discontent", and are saying that the game is in grave danger, due to public disinterest and financial pressures.

I strongly resent these pessimistic pronouncements, and for once, prefer to look at the brighter signs. After the May Day strikes, a Conservative paper proudly headlined the news, "Millions of workers defy T.U.C. call". A Labour affiliated daily told us triumphantly that, "Over a million and a half people stayed away from work!"

Both were right, and it is only a question of slanting the same set of statistics. It is factual to say that during the '72-73 season, the Football League lost three million spectators. It is equally true that attendances in our First and Second Divisions are still the highest in the world.

Clubs in the lower regions have been living in a fool's paradise for far too long.

They are not financially viable, and must re-organise their budgeting by using part-time pros. and charging less for the entertainment they offer. Dr. Roger Bannister, in his speech to the delegates of the International Press, emphasised that participation in sport is vitally important for the health of the nation, and especially so for teenagers.

Facilities

Efforts are made on a national scale to provide facilities for such activities, whether it is competitive or merely recreational. The challenge has been taken-up, and more and more people crowd the park pitches, swimming pools, golf courses etc., on Saturday afternoons.

I believe that public interest in football is greater than ever, hence the eagerness of commercial enterprises to jump on the bandwagon. It doesn't really need a super salesman like Jimmy Hill to "sell" the F.A. Cup or any other competition to sponsors. Money from advertisers is readily available, whether it is to underwrite existing tournaments or to subsidise individual clubs. These hard-headed, shrewd businessmen certainly wouldn't want to invest in a minority or ailing sport.

Although, judging by the transfer activities, the game doesn't need "outside" money. Vast sums have been spent on mediocre players, and both Manchester United and Crystal Palace did dis-service to the game by their reckless buying sprees. The former bought themselves out of trouble, the latter didn't.

Therefore, the evidence remains inconclusive, but to me, it seems ludicrous that such wholesale purchase of players is permitted. No other F.A. in the world would sanction our free-for-all transfer system. In most countries, teams may only strengthen their squads during the close season. The British footballers themselves are fighting for a complete overhaul of the whole concept, and would like to be able to negotiate their own contracts after the old one has expired.

This is a method in line with the Common Market labour policy, and operates successfully in W. Germany and France. Obviously, large transfer fees have considerable publicity value, but they force many clubs to over-reach themselves in an effort to keep up in the rat-race, and money plays too large a part in shaping the league table. I am in favour of Government intervention to work out an agreement between employers and employees in football, but I would put a stop to the unwarranted interference in disciplinary matters.

Evidence

The points system is a good one, but it can only work if automatic suspensions are accepted. There is no appeal against the referee's decisions in any other matter, why should a booking be any different? 12 points — a two-match ban, sending-off — a three-game ban, *and that is it!* No filmed evidence, no sworn statements by solicitors' opponents, no help from the midwives of the Player's Union, and most certainly, no further appeals to Independent Tribunals.

Every respected profession has the right to discipline its own members. The integrity of the referees is the safeguard that justice is best served by accepting their decisions as *final*. Apart from odd inexcusable lapses, refereeing has been steadily improving, and the players have realised that the laws of the game must be obeyed.

The UEFA has shown a commendable example by instructing their own officials to be very strict indeed, and the yellow and red cards do mean instant punishment. On the debit side, even on international level, the standard of football has been disappointing. The 4-3-3 formation has become just as stereo-typed and inflexible as the W.M.-system was in the early fifties.

There is very little adventure, imagination or, to use that overworked cliche, flair. Ajax are on the decline, the W. Germans are intent on committing football suicide with their tedious long-running bribery saga, and even in Brazil, there is a tendency to close-up the game and goals are hard to come by.

Coaches

The coaches must realise that they are the people who have the power to change the face of the modern game. Individual skills must be encouraged, dour, defensive tactics disgarded. The press ought to emphasise that people stay away from football matches simply because they do not enjoy them.

"Too much T.V.", "hooliganism", "the price of tickets", "facilities", and the other boring excuses are merely red-herrings which confuse the issue. Irrespective of these minor problems, the coaches —and the players—must aim to make the "merchandise" they are offering as attractive as possible. A truly great team would draw bumper attendances even if they played in a dilapidated stadium.

Packaging is important, but the value of the product decides whether it is going to sell or not. For me, the most encouraging sight was the plane-load of British managers and coaches who took the trouble to travel to Amsterdam for the Ajax v Bayern European Cup tie. It demonstrated that they are willing to learn, that the era of splendid isolation is finally over.

Although the Grimsby manager said after the trip that his crowd wouldn't tolerate this kind of football, the less biased members of the party thought that the trip was a fruitful experience. Perhaps we have seen "the start of something big", (Grimsby excluded!), and therefore the past season wasn't so bad after all.

Norman Cutler sends this report from Spain

Title race takes on new complexion —Real slip behind

SPANISH football has battered all top of the table forecasts this season. There was a time when the title came from any one of five teams; in fact, only eight teams have won the title in forty-one years.

The emergence this season of three more teams—Malaga, Español and Castellon, changed the whole face of the table. All are mystery teams who have decidedly lengthened the championship and taken the power from the group which has dominated the game for so long.

The Spanish season ends later this year because of five fixture postponements for international games. It's still anyones guess who will win, or who have won.

Four teams with a point between them have been running neck and neck for the top position . . . two ancient Catalan rivals —Barcelona and Español . . . and the two Madrid enemies—Real and Atletico. It's so close that a single win makes a complete mess of the top half of the table . . . leader one week and 4th place the next. Some weeks finds them with equal points.

Compensation

Barcelona, the favourites, began to crack badly under the strain and suffered their biggest defeat (4-0) in years when they played in Castellon . . . the victory was a compensation for the Castellon fans, some of whom had paid as much as 5,000 ptas. (£35), black-market, for a standing ticket to a packed ground.

Español—Second Division last season—have made a sensational leap to the top and seem quite secure for the first or second place. Their success, while impressive, is hardly surprising. They comprise a team extremely rich in experience, whose return to the First Division in one season has saved one of Spain's oldest clubs from extinction. The goal by Roberto Martinez, signed from the Argentine this year, that gave Español victory over Barcelona put him straight into the international side against Greece.

But Real and Atletico Madrid also seem determined to get to the top, so the race goes on. It will probably be a photo finish.

Sol, the left-back of Valencia and Spain.

The annual rumour cropped up again after Real's exit from the European Cup . . . "Real to release Manager Muñoz". It happens year after year and as yet there is not a word of truth in it.

Sometimes I think these stories are strengthened by the Club's President, D. Santiago Bernabeu, who when asked to confirm or deny, says nothing.

Don Santi knows very well what is going on in Real Madrid and says that Muñoz's renewal is a matter for the Board and nothing has been heard from them.

Miguel's successor is said to be coming from Lucien Müller (Castellon), Di Stefano (Valencia) or Santamaria (Español). The whole thing hasn't very much foundation. They've all had experience, all are successful and all are ex-Real players, but any short list must have the names Gento and Molowny, both are more likely than some of the others.

I understand that one of them has asked for 4,000,000 ptas. as a signing fee, 50,000 ptas. a month salary, double bonuses, accommodation etc etc. Personally I can guess who that is. Take my tip . . . forget all about it until it happens.

The most sensational rumour of the many we heard this season was that "Amancio" had been transferred. It was right!

News message read: "F.C. GAMATRES (Italy) has signed Amancio of the Spanish National XI for a fee of 70,000 ptas."

It was the amount that shocked everyone at first, but later there was calm when it was learnt that the player was Conchi (Conchita), also known as "Amancio", star of Madrid and the Spanish Ladies International XI.

She was the first Spanish player to be transferred to a foreign club since ladies' football became official. The fee also included a job (compatible with Ladies football).

See how complicated transfers are going to get unless the use of professional players' names, and other things, are controlled by the new statutes.

Franz Beckenbauer arrived in Spain over Easter direct from Munich, landing at Alicante Airport, then travelling on to Maizmo by aerotaxi.

He has long been interested in buying land for a house on the Costa Blanca, so brought his wife Bridgette, three sons Michael, Thomas and Charles and the Bayern manager to approve his selection in the Maizmo Urbanization.

It was his previous visit which sparked off Barcelona's statement that Beckenbauer had decided to sign for them.

He again denied he was leaving Bayern Munich, with his usual comment "What possible reason have I for leaving Munich?"

Barcelona's General Manager categorically stated in the President's box at Santiago Bernabeu on the Ajax night that Barcelona are not going to buy foreign stars this summer.

Claramunt of Valencia and Spain.

I wonder what suddenly made them change their minds, because only a few weeks ago they were on the list for Blankenburg, Beckenbauer, Müller, Anastasia, Holker, Bene and Djakic. Perhaps they've been counting up the £10,000,000 cost, or did the Ajax stars frighten them.

When the public reads football news in Spain's newspapers, it's like playing Russian roulette. You never know who you're coming up with.

Fortunately I don't have to worry, I rely on reliable sources.

For example, the following news(!) was floating about last week, rumours of changes in managers for next season. As usual the first name was Max Merkel, who was said to be leaving Atletico Madrid. Vavá, the Brazilian manager of Cordoba for the last two years, is also expected to leave . . . he is said to be going to Atletico Madrid in June!

CUBILLA

of Uruguay talks to Gregory Tesser

TESSER: You have long been renowned for your dribbling ability. How did you acquire this skill?

CUBILLA: As a youngster, when I was just starting my career, I used to go regularly to the cinema and watched again and again news film of the famous Brazilian Garrincha and the legendary Stanley Matthews. I was extremely impressed by both of them, and then I made a vow to myself that one day I would become their equal.

When did you begin your career as a footballer?

In 1958, the same year as Brazil became World Champions for the first time. I signed for Penarol at the age of eighteen and I suppose my greatest moment with the club was in 1961 when we crushed Benfica 5-0 in the second-leg of the World Club Championship.

Why did you leave Penarol?

Soon after the 1961 World Club Championship. I lost my first team place and drifted into the club reserves and at the same time I was dropped from the international squad. Then, I received a good offer from Barcelona which I accepted, and so, I remained in Spain for two years.

What happened then?

During my period with Barcelona, River Plate of Buenos Aires began to show great interest in me. At the time they were aiming to become World Club Champions, and felt that my experience could help them achieve their objective.

However, I turned down the offer and signed for Penarol's deadly rivals, Nacional.

Why did you refuse River Plate's offer and join Nacional instead?

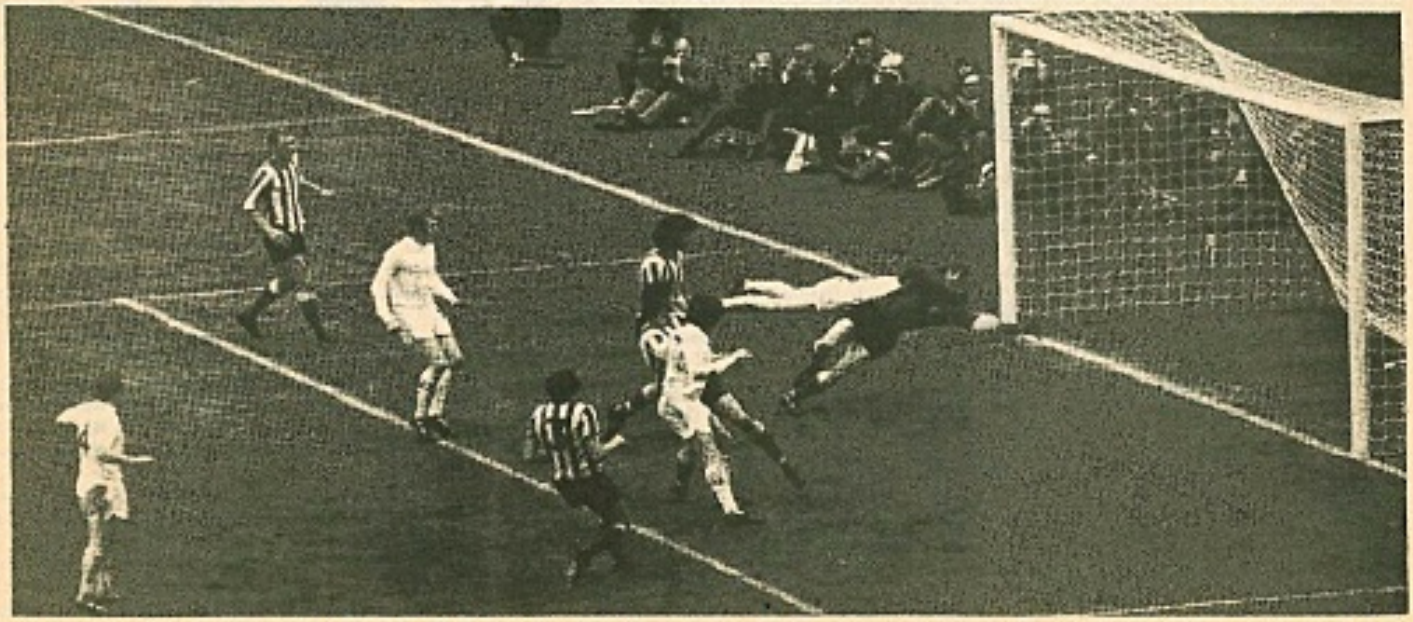
For the simple reason that Nacional was a club from my own country and after my previous disappointments with Penarol, it was pleasing to know that there were clubs in my country that still believed in me.

Have you had any cause to regret your move to Nacional?

Certainly not. Since I have been there, we have won the Uruguayan Championship four times; the South American Club Championship twice and the World Club Championship. What more can one ask for?

Apart from football, have you any other interests?

Not really. Football is my life. Whenever I have time to spare, I spend it on the beach. All I like to do is to try to improve myself as a footballer and I always have plenty of exercise for this very reason. I intend to remain a professional footballer for at least another couple of years and obviously in order to achieve this I'll have to be as fit then as I am now.



The save of the season in England? Sunderland goalkeeper Jim Montgomery superbly prevents Peter Lorimer equalising for Leeds United in the 1973 FA Cup Final.

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England captain Bobby Moore—as masterful as ever.

FOR nearly three years, Brian Birch, one of the original "Busby Babes" formerly with Manchester United, Bolton Wanderers, and Blackburn Rovers, has been with Galatasaray of Istanbul, one of the most famous clubs in Turkey. Birch's team have won the First Division Championship in 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73 for the third year running.

Galatasaray have been competing in European competitions for more than a decade and have reached the quarter-finals of the European Cup several times. In the last three seasons they have completely outclassed their rivals in the First Division and Birch seems confident that his team will have more success in the European Cup. The repeat of the last two seasons' superb show is now complete and one can safely say that Brian Birch is one of the most successful British managers outside the United Kingdom. (The Galatasaray supporters simply love him . . .)

In the last few seasons the Turkish First Division has become one of the toughest in Europe with nearly half of the sixteen clubs challenging for the third year running after beating their arch-rivals Fenerbahce 1-0. With the league already won Galatasaray won the first leg of the Turkish Cup Final beating the other finalists Ankaragucu 3-1. The second leg will just be a formality. This is the golden "double" year for Galatasaray . . .

Birch's success lies in his complete understanding of the game in a country where millions have been waiting for the day when Turkish football will launch itself to the top class, first in European competitions and then in the World Cup. Galatasaray play good clean modern football and Birch's team can match almost any side in Europe.

Birch has been able to mould a team of professionals into a brilliant attacking force and to introduce a greatly improved defence system which speaks for itself—Galatasaray have conceded only 10 goals in 27 league matches.

Birch's relentless efficiency and enthusiasm paved the way for Galatasaray's players to display their gifts in the most modern fashion. He has developed skill plus teamwork so rapidly that Galatasaray seem to be playing at a great pace in almost all their matches. Much credit must go to Birch for his magnificent effort that has made Galatasaray the pride of Turkey . . .

IVORY Coast will have to forfeit their match against Morocco in the World Cup if FIFA keeps to May 20 and June 3 for the qualifying matches according to sources in Abidjan. M. Hubert Varlet, President of the Ivory Coast Football Federation Provisional Committee (CNPFIF) said in Abidjan that if these were maintained the CNPFIF be obliged to declare the ma purely and simply forfeit."

He said they would do th allow the country's champion Asec, to compete in the Af Club Champions' Cup when contrast, to the World Cup, the everything to gain.

The CNPFIF has recently be touch with FIFA to change dates which coincide with the qu ing matches between Asec Ab and Conakry Hafia.

The weekly paper, *Ivory Su* recently carried a report abou Asec-Hafia match on rumours the number of Asec fans allow go to Conakry would be limit 200.

The limit follows reports decision by the Guinean Govern to prevent clandestine entry Conakry. Several hundred Asec have already booked to g Conakry, the paper said.

"MOORE-BASHING" is a ty popular past-time England among certain quarte the community. There are even journalists who seem to delig suggesting that the England ca should make way for a yo player.

ITALIANS TAKE TO C

by PHILIP EVANS

THESE have been interesting weeks in Italy, providing much ammunition for bar-lizards up and down the country. Helenio Herrera was dismissed by Roma, and quite rightly if one looks at potential against actuality—only to be offered the managership of Internazionale for next season at a salary that will keep him in silk ties and smiles for many a year; Gianni Rivera was suspended for four matches following a verbal tiff with his least favourite referee, Concetto Lo Bello—only to have the suspension cut in half; Concetto Lo Bello annulled a goal that was, threatened to hand up his whistle—only (and much to Rivera's chagrin) to pull it off the hook once more; and Brian Clough was in Italy.

Most Italians I spoke to thought Clough all gong and no dinner. The style is the man, and the irony is that were Clough ever to be soft-headed enough to want to manage an Italian team (something he might do phenomenally well), people there might understand, and take to, the huge element of burlesque in his public utterances. He understands the theatrical element of the game perfectly; and there is no doubt that when Derby are playing well (or allowed to play well) they are a beautiful team to watch.

Against Juventus, however, they gave rise again to the thought that much of our game is ingenuous in the extreme. And no Italian could even begin to comprehend why Todd, acknowledged as a player of the highest technical skill, should ever want to leave his own penalty area. Sad, after some of Derby's earlier performances; and almost inevitable.

As I write there is one day left of this year's championship to play with Milan on 44 points, Lazio and Juventus on 43. It was not always so—theoretically—tense. Juventus dropped two points a few days before the first game against Derby in an uninspired and drab defeat at the hands of Fiorentina. Since then they have won all five matches they have played, scoring 14 goals in the process. One "if".

Another, lay, inevitably, in the Lazio-Milan game, won by the former by the odd goal in three in front of a crowd that paid over 250 millions of lire (or £175,000) for the privilege. Lazio probably deserved to win, but where Milan happen to be trouble is a fellow-traveller. A few minutes from the end Chiarugi put the ball into the net—only to have the goal flagged offside and annulled by Lo Bello. Television and snappy camera-work suggested later that the goal should have stood; but by then Gianni Rivera had told Lo Bello what he thought of him—and thus the initial four-match suspension.

On successive Sundays Lazio and Milan travelled to Torino, met Giagnoni's team and came away with a point. A scoreless draw in the first instance, four goals shared in the second—and that points something of a moral about the two. Milan took the field with Prati, back after a long absence through injury, only to lose the poor lad after four minutes of the game had passed—injured yet again. Given the pre-season planning and bargaining of the Italian game, Prati's many absences only serve to highlight the marvellous way in which Milan have kept succeeding. Benetti strong on nasty pitches, Bigon formidable when the going is firm, Rivera in sublime form almost throughout.

Juventus have been in a similar position recently, able to choose from a strong squad, with Bettega showing touches of his pre-injury power, Altafini capable of anything, Anastasi roving in midfield and still capable of scoring glorious goals. Perhaps with a manager more charismatic than Vycpalek, they might have swept the board. As it is, they have done well to reach the final of the European Cup.

Inter have continued to delude, often whistled off the pitch at

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What a load of rubbish. Bobby Moore will be captain of England in the next World Cup (providing that Polish hurdle is successfully cleared) and rightly so. Moore remains supreme on the big occasion —just cast your minds back to 1970 if you have any doubts. In Mexico, the one English player to stand out was Moore.

Many of those who like to knock Moore have a habit of changing their tune when its World Cup time again. Despite players like Norman Hunter and Colin Todd, the said Mr Moore is a must for England.

Birch carries British flag in Turkey with success

SCOTLAND'S World Cup rivals Czechoslovakia are certainly taking no chances on losing their stars before the crucial preliminary group matches. During the second half of their League programme, which resumed after the winter break in March, every player who causes an injury and puts out of action a member of the national squad, is being automatically suspended. He is not allowed to play until the international has fully recovered!

This measure, which has no parallel in the history of football, is designed to protect the country's top talent, but at the same time it should help to curb the progressively tougher methods and approach in Czech soccer, which it is claimed here, the players have copied from the professionals in Western Europe!

The Czech press has been critical of this decision by the FA which they point out is hardly fair to the rest of the players not enjoying similar "protection". The country's leading paper *Rude Pravo* complains that footballers "will now have to think twice before making a tackle to ascertain they are not about to put out of circulation a star player and indeed themselves"! *Rude Pravo* asks: "Why not extend this rule to all footballers? Where is the logic in punishing only those who are unlucky enough to have hurt a star?"

But national manager Vaclav Jezek has welcomed the new regulation: "We haven't got enough top class players and must therefore try everything to protect our key men. If we lose just a couple of important players we could be in trouble. At this stage of preparation for the World Cup preliminaries, the interests of the national team must have priority over all other considerations."

★

Next month in World Soccer — special reports on the European Cup Final and England's trip to Poland — plus full World Cup details.

★

WOULD CLOUGH

, raiderless, unable to spread themselves and play attrac- ball for the sake of it once their championship aspirations ished. Next season could make them fascinating—not psychologically and tactically.

have won points steadily, have broken slowly away fensive attitudes that pervaded much of their play last They now have Antognoni, of course; and in Desolati has unearthed another youngster who may do exciting years to come. He's somewhat fragile, but brave and re- l. Needs careful nursing so that the Morinis and Rosatos colis of the world don't depress him too much in terms ed combat.

and Palermo are already doomed to relegation and await it could very well be Vicenza, which is a shame; Sampdoria again managed to keep both nostrils above the water- ight have been Roma at one stage, disgrace that that would n. Herrera can really have few complaints. True though it ome of his best discoveries have been sold off, Roma still ugh players of talent to finish where they belong—com- in the middle reaches of the table.

easonal round-up next month. And a quick thought that will do very well to beat the Italians when the two meet in June 14. History is very much on England's side, for the have never won any of the eight meetings that have taken records are always there to have tongues stuck out at

Bulgarelli, captain of Bologna.

JACK ROLLIN looks at the players who

AJAX HAVE EDGE IN ATTACK...

THIS season's European Cup Final is the third occasion that Dutch and Italian clubs have met at this stage. In fact it has been Ajax for the Netherlands each time. But they have come a long way since losing 4-1 to AC Milan in the 1969 Final. It was never better illustrated than in last year's final when they defeated Inter-Milan 2-0.

Ajax are aiming for a hat-trick of European Cup successes; something which has not been achieved since the halcyon days of Real Madrid and exactly ten years after Benfica failed on a similar mission against an Italian side, AC Milan in the Wembley final of 1963.

The Dutchmen have had a curiously mixed season with much of their troubles stemming from playing too much football —where have we heard that one before? Johan Cruyff has been going through the motions in many games because of injury and undoubtedly the gap between him and the rest of the team is not only one of ability, as off the field he tends to go his own way, socially and financially.

What it does add up to is that though perhaps the best of Cruyff has been seen in the context of Ajax, the best of some of the other players is yet to be seen. Whether they can sparkle as a team without the extra inspiration of Cruyff is not fully proven.

Juventus, their opponents, were fortunate when they played Derby in the semi-finals that everything went right for them. Refereeing decisions certainly helped their unsettlement of Derby in Italy and without Roy McFarland particularly in the second leg, the Rams were little more than sheep led to the slaughter when they missed a penalty at a time when they were wearing the Italian defence down.

Juventus goalkeeper Dino Zoff . . . "not bad for a foreigner," jokes Brian Clough.

Pressure

The pattern of play for the Final looks predictable. Ajax will go at the Italians as they did Inter-Milan in the final last season. Juventus will sit back waiting for a break and continue to soak up the pressure.

In counter attacks they probably have the best chance through Pietro Anastasi, their expensive centre forward. Anastasi always looks a class above everyone else even though he often fails to play like it. He has done well in Italian football considering the £440,000 tag which was attached to him in 1968 when as a 20 year-old he was transferred from Varese to Juventus.

Anastasi is quick, clever and has an accurate finish. I would rate him Juventus' best player and his opposite number in terms of class with Ajax is Cruyff, of course.

Cruyff had scored 16 goals for Ajax in the League this term while Anastasi has not managed half that total in the Italian First Division—but comparisons of that nature are obviously ridiculous. Cruyff's career goals total is well past the 250 goal mark now—roughly five times as many as Anastasi. Cruyff at 26 is at the peak of his career apart

will be taking part in this year's European Cup Final

Flashpoint in the Derby-Juventus semi-final, Roger Davies of Derby is sent off.

from his nagging injuries. He is razor sharp on the ball has terrific acceleration and likes to come through on long runs.

Juventus goalkeeper Dino Zoff, whose reflexes are excellent, is not put off under constant pressure in the six yard box. At 31 he is also at the height of his career which started with Udinese, later with Mantova and then Napoli where he really developed and became an international.

Ajax goalkeeper Heinz Stuy (28) is not as lithe and his bulky frame often gives the impression of lethargy, but his performances are better than his looks if not in the Zoff class.

The centre backs for Juventus will probably be Francesco Morini a tall, blond awkward customer and the experienced skipper Sandro Salvadore. Morini is a real handful for any centre forward to negotiate. He niggles all the way and uses his body in every possible manner as a stumbling block.

Salvadore is no slouch at tackling either, and as the sweeper in the side, takes care of most of the problems left over in the middle. Morini is 28 and was previously with Juventus. Salvadore a wily campaigner at 33 was with Milan before and has over 350 First Division games behind him and some 36 caps, too.

Situations

But the big difference between these two and the Ajax middle pair of Barry Hulshoff and Horst Blankenburg is that only rarely will the Italians venture upfield on other than dead ball situations.

Hulshoff (26) is the stopper; commanding and with the enterprise and ability to plunder upfield whenever possible. Blankenburg, the German who drifted around with Nurnberg, Munich 1860 and Wiener Sportclub before blossoming out with Ajax, is the blond sweeper with the touch of a midfield player, now aged 25.

At full back the Italian choice will probably rest between Luciano Spinosi (23) and Silvio Longobucco (21) for the right back berth and Giampiero Marchetti for the other flank. Spinosi was briefly with Roma before joining Juventus and is quick and a pretty fair tackler in the best sense of the word; unlucky to concede a penalty to Derby's Kevin Hector who said afterwards that the Italian played him fairly during the game. Marchetti at 24 is another experienced player having been with Atalanta and Lecco before joining his present club. Longobucco is a utility defender discovered with Ternana.

The midfield hatchet man of the Italian side is Giuseppe Furino, a player converted from full-back to operate in a defensive role in the centre of the field. At 26 he was originally with Juventus but had spells with Savona and Palermo before rejoining the club in 1969.

Ajax probably have no comparable player on their side, though 21 year-old Johan Neeskens comes nearest as a former defender. Found playing for Racing Club Haarlem, Neeskens has a good tackle and can finish expertly.

His confederates in midfield, Arie Haan (23) and Gerrie Muhren (26) help to make a formidable trio in the engine room of the side. Really they play as old fashioned inside forwards. Haan is big but clever on the ball and can shoot. Muhren is the 90 minute type who gets through mountains of work efficiently.

Juventus will probably have four midfield players to choose from. The German international Helmut Haller is somewhat overweight at present but a canny player for all that at 33. Fabio Capello (27) can spray the ball around but often fatally makes a bad pass which causes danger at the wrong end. He was with Spal and Roma earlier in his career.

Right wing operator in a midfield sense is Franco Causio (24) who needs to be tightly marked otherwise he zips away like greased lightning. Finally there is Antonello Cuccureddu (23) who is gifted but like his compatriots in the midfield may have suspect temperament.

In attack the wily old bird of the Italian side is Jose Altafini, who recently notched his 199th League goal. Now 34 he does little more than goal hang—but cannot be ignored. Left winger Roberto Bettega (22) recovered from a serious illness but yet to find his scintillating form as a left wing striker in the Riva mould is a problem, too.

Other candidates for a place are the young Gianluigi Savoldi (24) and Adriano Novellini (24) a striker with a reputation for scoring goals against lesser mortals.

Up front for Ajax will probably be Johnny Rep (20) who has shot to the top of the scoring charts in the League this term with 17 goals and taken over a regular right wing spot from the veteran Sjaak Swart (34). Rep is big but has yet to prove himself in the very best company. On the left will be Piet Keizer (29) the left footed trickster of the side.

Accuracy

While the rest of the team play at a pretty fast rate, Keizer slows it down. Sometimes it needs his style, other times it is wasted, but he can cross the ball with wicked accuracy and can put in some tricky dead ball situations, too.

That leaves the Ajax full-backs Wim Suurbier and Ruud Krol. Suurbier (28) likes to overlap but is not as good when having to defend and often tends to be slow on the turn. Krol (24) is the better player and also finishes well.

In reserve Ajax will have the 21 year-old younger brother of Gerrie Muhren, Arnold of that ilk, plus Heinz Schilcher the Austrian defender who has done well standing in for the likes of the back four and midfield operators, too.

So there it is; the fascination of an attacking side against a defensive one. Ajax probably have the pull in attack and midfield, while the Italians hold the defensive aces. In the end the game could be decided on the errors the Ajax defence makes and the ability of the Italians to take advantage of the situation. But having seen both in European action this season I would take Ajax for a European Cup hat-trick.

Brian Marshall spotlights the Wolverhampton Wanderers boss

McGarry - a man who won't mince words

Wolves manager Bill McGarry.

ACCORDING to Bill McGarry, the Wolves manager, you make your own luck in soccer by the decisions taken before and during a match. This is why he blames himself for the fact that Wolves failed to beat Leeds United in the F.A. Cup semi-final.

He claims that he should have included Mike Bailey in his side instead of naming the club skipper as substitute. It was a profound problem whereby he alone could make the vital decision.

The outcome was that after he had debated all the possible problems of his selection he reached the conclusion that in the delicate and tense situation Mike Bailey should be substitute—a move which even surprised some of the Wolves players who had expected their lucky mascot Steve Kindon to occupy the number twelve role.

After the 1-0 defeat he claimed: "It was my fault we lost. There is a time and place for players, and the Leeds game was the time and place for Mike Bailey.

Instinct

"The problem was that I could not be sure of Frank Munro's fitness. I decided I couldn't risk both players. My instinct told me I should have played Bailey and for the first time I didn't follow it. We needed Mike as a player and also as a captain."

There were no recriminations because for Bill McGarry and his team they had suffered similar disappointments in the past. They have, it seems, become almost destined to be the perennial bridesmaid.

One man who would instantly disagree is McGarry himself. He firmly believes that Wolves can only progress from their experiences and the Leeds result was just another stepping stone to achieving a really top-flight side.

He makes no attempt to hide the fact that his ambition is to produce an outstanding side and this is why he has, since his appointment as Wolves manager, taken up every opportunity to give his players as much match play as possible.

Since his arrival at Molineux in November 1968 they have played match all around the globe and it is this kind of experience which will, ultimately, produce a trophy winning team.

McGarry himself does not mince words. A blunt type of character typical of the North Staffordshire area from which he originates, he knows the score as a soccer manager.

He says: "It is not all honey being manager of a big club. Managers of the smaller clubs don't realise how lucky they are in this respect. I certainly didn't when I was a manager in the Third Division."

Decisions

One of the problems of being manager of a First Division club is that he often has to account to a great number of people for his actions.

This does not please him one bit and he admits that he has never been very happy about explaining his decisions to directors.

McGarry claims: "If a director questions your judgement he is showing no faith. What is worse, he is also questioning his own because he hired you in the first place."

The Wolves manager, who suffered a big set-back shortly after his arrival at Molineux when Peter Knowles quit the game, makes no bones about the fact that as a manager he has no friends in the game.

Business

He survives because of his own decisions in the soccer jungle. On this maxim his very survival depends upon the staff he recruits to carry out his orders.

On the other hand, however, he knows full well that come one fine day he will get the sack. "Any manager who doesn't think this is deluding himself," says McGarry.

This is why he treats the game of soccer very much as a business. His wife, for instance, never goes to any of the games and does not become involved in the life of the club.

There is nothing anti-social about this arrangement. It has been a common understanding during his entire managerial career and his wife is in full agreement with the situation that exists.

She says: "I've hardly met any of the players or their wives and I could easily pass Derek Dougan in the street and not know him!"

But like her husband, she appreciates the pressures of soccer and knows full well that the game has provided her with a wonderful life.

Bill McGarry, however, is still the man who makes his own decisions and sinks or swims by the results. This has been his single-minded policy since he entered the game. In some instances his wife was the last person to know that he had moved to a new club during a often hectic whirl of events which, in his managerial career, has seen him manager of such clubs as Bournemouth, Watford, Ipswich Town and now Wolves.

Ultimate

All the time he has been striving to achieve his ultimate aim in soccer and this is a really top-class team. He feels that he has the makings of such a side at Wolves. In the meantime they will go on gaining as much experience as possible because in the end it is this which counts in the long run.

Leeds United, Liverpool, Spurs and Arsenal have all enjoyed this kind of grounding and Bill McGarry, a hard task-master, who says he has earned his reputation for saying "yes" and "no" quicker than anyone else in the game, is determined that Wolves, too, will join the big league in the not too distant future.

IVO VIKTOR

GUEST WRITER

of Czechoslovakia and Dukla Prague

EVERY small boy, who likes football and spends all his free-time playing on grass, has a dream, an imagination, that he would like to be a footballer for the rest of his life, and play in real football dress and real football shoes. He also has many players whom he admires, and would like to be just as outstanding as his "gods". I was like this as a boy. I wanted to be the world's best goalkeeper. My ambitions were twofold: to play in our First Division and to be the goalkeeper of our national team.

Therefore, I soon became interested in every outstanding goalkeeper both at home and abroad. I especially admired the Hungarian Grosics and the Frenchman Darui. I also read with considerable interest about many English goalkeepers, including Gil Merrick and Bert Trautman. And I certainly didn't believe it when Merrick conceded six goals against Hungary at Wembley in 1953.

However, my one great dream was to play at Wembley. And this dream was fulfilled when I played at Wembley. And this dream was fulfilled when I played at Wembley for Czechoslovakia against England, who were then the world champions.

Selected

I began my football career at Sternberk, near where I was born. From Sternberk I was transferred to Prostejov, and in 1961 I joined the Army. When I joined RH Brno, they han an outstanding goalkeeper called Schmucker and therefore I had to be content with reserve team soccer. But then I had several opportunities to play for the first-team and soon afterwards I was selected to play for the under-23 international side, although not as a regular.

When I left the Army, about ten clubs showed interest in me, but I didn't believe it even though it was true. Slovan Bratislava was the first club which negotiated with me, followed by Sparta and Slavia and also RH Bruno who changed their name to Spartak Brno ZJS, and they wanted me to stay in Brno after my army service.

But I wanted to go to a club with a prosperous future. I knew from RH Brno, what it was like to fight every year against relegation. After every match with them I felt literally one year older. I can assure you that I don't like to play in games involving the threat of relegation. It is much better to fight for the title or the European Cup.

These matches suit my temperament. I also had a good offer from Bohemians, but they were in much the same plight as Brno. And during those years I was far too young for such tension-filled games. Therefore, just before the end of my army service I decided to stay in the army and sign for Dukla Prague.

National

I knew that Dukla had an outstanding goalkeeper, Pavel Kouba who had played several times for the national team. So I joined Dukla as their second-string keeper, but within one year I had become a first-team regular.

In 1965 I was chosen for the first time for the national squad. My international debut was extremely difficult. We played Brazil in Rio de Janeiro against a Brazilian side at full strength. But we were defeated 2-1, and the magnificent Pele scored both goals. However, I was very satisfied with my performance.

During this trip through South America I had the opportunity of seeing many goalkeepers. They are very different from the English goalkeepers as they tend to be much too flashy, and make even an easy save look difficult. Frankly I don't like these sort of goalkeepers. They are, in my view, a danger to their team.

I admire British goalkeepers because they are very skilful in the penalty area. I have, of course, seen Gordon Banks, Peter Bonetti and Pat Jennings and all are very outstanding.

The famous Gilmar was also a very competent goalkeeper, but as far as I am concerned he was too much of a showman. I think that Lev Yashin was undoubtedly the only keeper who was ever on a par with Gordon Banks.

In modern football the goalkeeper plays an extremely important role—much more important than before the second world war when they usually stood only on the goal-line waiting for the ball. Nowadays goalkeepers must always be in action, especially when they are attempting to fist away high balls which are always very difficult to cope with.

In spite of all this I think the position of a goalkeeper is not really appreciated enough. This is probably best borne out by the low transfer fees paid for goalkeepers as opposed to international-class strikers.

Over the years many journalists have asked me what type of player I prefer. I must say that I enjoy the type of players who never give up. This is why I like playing against, for example West Germany or England in preference to the South Americans.

With Dukla and Czechoslovakia I have travelled to almost every country in the world. I have had many happy days and moments both on and off the field. But I have also had many unpleasant experiences. One of the best moments was during my club's visit to Japan. I was surprised by the great improvement of their football.

Coaches

We played their national team and drew 0-0, and according to the Japanese papers it was an outstanding success for the home country. Japanese players need only more training and coaching in order to become very strong opponents. I think this should occur in the near future because Japan is a comparatively rich country and therefore has the opportunity to invite foreign coaches.

Another experience I will treasure was when I played for Czechoslovakia against England at Wembley. On the other hand I have also got many unpleasant memories, the prime one being the Octagonal tournament in Chile when we played too many matches, and the trip itself was much too long. We were without our best players and because of the winter break in our country we were badly out of touch.

But, as I have already stated I have had a great many pleasant times, and I hope that during the remaining years of my career I will have only happy memories to cherish when I finally hang up my boots!

HOW MAD IS

IF very little notice seems so far to have been taken in this country of a book called FOOTBALL MANIA, by Gerhard Vinnai, this is partly the fault of his publishers (Orbach and Chambers in hard cover, Ocean Book in paperback) and partly of Herr Vinnai himself. Of his publishers, because they have given his controversial study such a cheap title, to replace its German title of "Football As Psychology," of Herr Vinnai because he is so tendentious.

George Orwell, before the war, used to dismiss a certain class of propagandist as "silly clever Tories," and it is hard not to categorise Herr Vinnai as a "silly clever Marxist." There is so much in his reading and his analysis which is stimulating and genuinely controversial that it's a shame he should have spoiled it by taking such a narrowly Marxist view, of laying all the ills of professional football at the door of capitalism.

If he were not so pitifully blinkered, he would see that they were mirrored to a degree in football behind the Iron Curtain. Players in the capitalist countries, he asserts, "have to be so programmed for their matches that they will automatically try pre-determined moves to resolve any given situation. The player must transform himself, physically and mentally, into a piece of technical apparatus."

It must be embarrassing for Herr Vinnai that the most "automated" and robot like footballers in the world are the Russians, who time after time fall at

"Football Mania" published by Orbach and Chambers is by Gerhard Vinnai.

the highest hurdle through sheer lack of originality and flair. We saw it in the World Cup of 1970. We saw it again in the European championship of 1972, when the West Germans, representatives, God save the mark, of one of the most shamelessly and vigorously capitalist countries in the world walked all over them in the Final, manifesting an individual brilliance and initiative which put the Russians to shame.

Analysis

I do not, however, want to transform this into an argument over the relative merits and deficiencies of capitalism and Communism. Indeed, it seems to me the very weakness of Herr Vinnai's outrageous, half digested but intriguing book that he should tempt one to do so. His Marxist analysis of capitalism is in any case almost touchingly old hat; he quotes the Master himself *ad lib* and almost *ad nauseam*. Herr Vinnai lays the blame for what is happening at the feet of "the technical rationality of capitalism for which all is quantification" and "the incessant pursuit of profit."

Football, he believes — football at least, in our corrupt capitalist system — "relentlessly endeavours to fit people for the operation of machines, by training techniques that reduce body and soul to the status of a machine."

The trouble is, as I have intimated, that if all were as easily explained as Herr Vinnai explains it, then Russia and its satellites would walk away with the the World Cup, the Nations Cup, the European Cup and the rest, time after time, without let or hindrance.

If Herr Vinnai were not intellectually dishonest and, be it noted in passing, rather ignorant about his subject, he would have made a far stronger case. He would have related what has happened and is happening to professional football to what is happening to industrialised society in general and what is happening to that society in general is, of course, mechanisation.

More and more of it.

More and more intimately pervading the psyche; as Herr Vinnai, who has read his authorities even if he is no great original thinker himself, is perfectly aware. It would be astonishing if football were to escape from this being, as it is, such a remarkable looking glass for its society. "Football," as Arnold Bennett's Denry Machin remarked to his wife in THE CARD? "has to do with everything." The implication of Herr Vinnai's thesis — as of so many partial thesis by Marxists — is that in some magic way, Communist mechanisation has not the pervasive, negative effects of capitalist mechanism.

Monolithic

In fact, as we can see for ourselves, it it considerably worse, because the society is centralised and monolithic, where capitalism tends still to be polyvalent and confused. (Communist society is often highly confused in its organisation, but that is another matter.)

Herr Vinnai is not, however, only a Marxist; he is also, most untypically for a Marxist (the penchant used to be despised as a form of bourgeois deviation) a Freudian. So am I, but I would be a little ashamed to bend and exploit the findings of psychoanalysis as Herr Vinnai has done. He has, it is true, produced an arsenal of theories from a host of authorities, including that remarkable painter-theorist, Adrian Stokes, and the uneven but gifted Eriksson.

Unfortunately, he has such strong preconceptions, is so anxious to find any stick which may be good enough to beat the dog, that he can find nothing of value in football. He starts, that is to say, from the apparent vantage point that football is a Good Thing which has been corrupted and perverted by wicked capitalism, then goes on to "expose" it as a rather doubtful and inferior form of compensation.

Take, for example, this; even if you cannot take it seriously: "Beating the

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FOOTBALL?

Brian Glanville reviews a controversial new book called 'FOOTBALL MANIA' and draws some interesting conclusions

opponent on the football pitch represents a symbolic reassurance of one's own potency, whilst defeat on the field or losing the ball to an opponent represents a symbolic castration."

Steady, there! I am irresistibly reminded of the time that Theodor Reik, then a young Viennese analyist, was being analysed by the great Freud himself. Jingling the money in his pocket, he announced with self-satisfaction that this was evidence of his own anal erotism. Freud told him impatiently, "No; it is because you do not want to send money to your brothers!"

Herr Vinnai does better still when he asserts, making use of a theory of the admirable Helene Deutsch, that the function of sport is "discharge of the player's anxiety."

"The hypothesis," he states, "makes it possible to explain why many footballers fail, for no apparent reason, especially in the crucial goal area. The discharge of anxiety, accomplished with the help of the game, suddenly collapses in these cases, and the player is beset by feelings of insecurity. Sport has not really enabled him to overcome his castration complex."

Satirical

Perhaps not. I am reminded of a character I invented in the days when I was writing satirical sketches, Professor Klaus Schmemndrik of Schweinfurt whose wont it was to give electric shocks to footballers guilty of missing open goals. "The only trouble," he admitted, "is that now they are putting through their *own* goal."

Vinnai also quotes a case of Helene Deutsch which make me feel that perhaps I was ahead of my time in the middle 1950s: her patient mastered anxieties about his father through "a great passion for football," and domination of the situation. Was it not another of my fictitious psychoanalysts who ended a long, sterile run by a famous centre-forward through telling him that every time he kicked the ball, he was actually kicking his father?

Best of all, however, is surely this: "The thesis that football corresponds to ancient inititiation rites opening the door to manhood is supported by the fact that interest in the game suffers a sharp decline after marriage."

Formulate

Does it? Where, pray, is the proof?

Good Herr Vinnai also believes, bless him, that "the spectator would even prefer not to formulate his own judgment on the sporting event; the mass media commentaries on the game he attended have a magical hold on him."

An endearing thought. But then, we must remember that his book was translated from the German.

Newsdesk

TOSTAO UNDECIDED

TOSTAO, one of the vital cogs in the Brazilian World Cup winning side of 1970, still doesn't know whether he will be able to play football again. He recently returned to Brazil from Houston (Texas) after another operation on his left eye. "I will only play again if I am 100 per cent fit," he said.

He doesn't have the same determination to return that he did in 1970 after an operation on a detached retina. He is rich enough not to worry about his future and obviously will not play again if it endangers the sight of his left eye.

FIFA are to consider increasing the number of finalists from 16 to 20 for the 1978 World Cup finals in Argentina. FIFA have decided to appoint a special committee to consider the proposal, which was put forward by Argentina and supported by the South American Confederation.

UEFA voted against the increase at their Congress in Paris two months ago, when delegates from Britain, Holland and Hungary expressed fears that this would lengthen the competition, causing hardships and extra financial burdens for players and the clubs for whom they play.

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ANDERLECHT DOMINANT C

Post-war survey . . . by Eric Batty

PRIOR to the 1939-45 war the game in Brussels and to a large extent Belgium as a whole was dominated by Union Saint Gilloise, Racing and Daring. The last named had been in Division II for some years and were joined at the end of the present league campaign by Union st. Gilloise.

Racing suffered temporarily, then staged a come-back after a fusion that produced the new Racing-White and both Daring and Union are currently considering amalgamations with other Brussels clubs Crossing and Meulenbeek.

Financial rewards

In the modern competitive game, with the players seeking ever greater financial rewards Brussels could not possibly support half a dozen top clubs.

Yet even if this were known 30 years ago, few people would have named RSC Anderlecht as the most likely club to survive in the capital for like Reims in neighbouring France they were a product of war-time football. The power behind their arrival was their burly centre forward Jeff Mermans.

Known as the "bomber" he packed a tremendous shot and was unusually good in the air. Since then, for no one man could have taken them to the top and kept them there, Anderlecht have developed in every way.

For years they pulled the biggest crowds and gradually attracted a collection of stars, recruiting youngsters, signing promising players from lesser clubs and importing top names from abroad.

Anderlecht still have the players and the organisation to remain at the top but in the last four or five seasons they have failed to find a manager or coach who could harness and motivate their stars. Not since the reign of Frenchman Pierre Sinibaldi in the mid sixties have the Anderlecht players played to their potential though despite domestic problems they surprisingly took the Cup and League double in 1972.

Belgium's second club of the moment are Standard and they too were over-shadowed by their wealthier neighbours FC Liege for many years. Indeed it was not until 1958 that they won their first ever league title.

National team

The secret of their rise was financial backing and the attendances which the presence of star players and continued success brought.

Since 1960 no other club managed to challenge the stranglehold of Anderlecht and Standard who inevitably dominated the national team, yet strangely neither club has in their successful years ever appointed a Belgian manager.

In the season just ended the two giants have been eclipsed by FC Bruges who have stood in the wings for several seasons waiting for their major rivals to fail.

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	Goals F.A.	Pts
1945-46 FC Malines	36	22	11	3	112.41	55
1946-47 RSC Anderlecht	36	21	8	7	108.37	50
1947-48 FC Malines	30	19	5	6	96.42	43
1948-49 RSC Anderlecht	30	18	5	7	91.38	41
1949-50 RSC Anderlecht	30	19	7	4	92.32	45
1950-51 RSC Anderlecht	30	16	6	8	78.35	38
1951-52 FC Liege	30	18	8	4	85.38	44
1952-53 FC Liege	30	18	6	6	79.40	42
1953-54 RSC Anderlecht	30	15	7	8	82.34	37
1954-55 RSC Anderlecht	30	17	7	6	85.31	41
1955-56 RSC Anderlecht	30	18	6	6	83.36	42
1956-57 RFC Antwerp	30	19	8	3	69.28	46
1957-58 RFC Standard Liege	30	17	10	3	75.31	44
1958-59 RSC Anderlecht	30	19	6	6	72.23	44
1959-60 Lierse S.K.	30	16	6	8	57.40	38
1960-61 RFC Standard Liege	30	18	9	3	67.25	45
1961-62 RSC Anderlecht	30	23	3	4	78.29	49
1962-63 RFC Standard Liege	30	19	8	3	71.26	46
1963-64 RSC Anderlecht	30	18	9	3	77.28	45
1964-65 RSC Anderlecht	30	24	3	3	87.22	51
1965-66 RSC Anderlecht	30	21	5	4	88.18	47
1966-67 RSC Anderlecht	30	20	7	3	63.12	47
1967-68 RSC Anderlecht	30	20	6	4	67.24	46
1968-69 RFC Standard Liege	30	19	7	4	62.18	45
1969-70 RFC Standard Liege	30	22	5	3	64.24	49
1970-71 RFC Standard Liege	30	21	5	4	66.24	47
1971-72 RSC Anderlecht	30	19	7	4	66.25	45
1972-73 FC Bruges	30	17	11	2	53.26	45

LEADING SCORER

Mermans (Anderlecht)	23
Mermans (Anderlecht)	28
Mermans (Anderlecht)	37
De Herdt (Berchem)	27
Coppens (Beerschot)	23
Coppens (Beerschot)	33
Van den Bosch (Ander.)	28
Coppens (Beerschot)	34
Mathonet (Standard)	28
Willems (La Gantoise)	34
Van Gool (Antwerp)	24
Vliers (Beerschot)	24
Wegria (FC Liege)	26
Wegria (FC Liege)	21
Wegria (FC Liege)	23
Stockman (Anderlecht)	29
Wegria (FC Liege)	24
Van Himst (Anderlecht)	26
Colonval (Tilleur)	25
Van Himst (Anderlecht)	24
Mulder (Anderlecht)	20
Claessens (Standard)	21
Nagy (Standard)	20
Emmerich (Beerschot)	29
Kostedde (Standard)	26
Lambert (FC Bruges)	17
Rensenbrink (Anderlecht)	16

FA CU

No competition

Standard Liege
FC Antwerp
RRC Tournai

No competition

La Gantoise
RSC Anderlecht
Standard Liege
Standard Liege
FC Bruges
Lierse SK
FC Bruges
Beerschot AC
RSC Anderlecht

THE CLUB

These two have matured under the influence of several imported players and significantly Bruges, too, in recent years have consistently appointed one foreign manager after another.

Their success was well deserved for five times in six consecutive seasons they finished second—in 1971-72 being runners up simply because they had won only 18 league games to Anderlecht's 19 after they had finished level on points.

Belgium's second city Antwerp was once a stronghold of soccer with AC Beerschot and Royal FC Antwerp. The latter were the first club to affiliate to the Belgian FA and the last to take the championship there but since that success in 1957 they have spent several seasons in Division II.

International arena

Beerschot have survived but not since the retirement of Rik Coppens have they had a player of outstanding class.

In the European context the Belgian game has matured since the days when Anderlecht were hammered 10-0 by Manchester United in a European Cup game.

More competitive and more physical, they have done surprisingly well in the international arena as a national side though the clubs still rely to a very great extent on imported foreign talent.

They cannot afford to sign the established stars but as is indicated by the leading scorers list in which foreigners topped the list in five years of the last six they play a vital part. With the economics of the game so vital today it is difficult to imagine anyone joining Anderlecht, Standard and Bruges and acquiring a position of dominance.

Paul Van Himst of Anderlecht.

FINALS

3	Lierse SK	0
4	Waterschei Thor	0
2	La Gantoise	1

4	FC Diest	2
3	Standard Liege	2
1	RSC Anderlecht	0
3	Racing Malines	1
1	Beerschot AC	1*
2	Racing White	0
6	Daring CB	1
2	VV St. Trond	1
1	Standard Liege	0

FA CUP VICTORIES:

RRC Standard Liege	3
RSC Anderlecht	2
FC Bruges	2
FC Antwerp	1
La Gantoise	1
RRC Tournai	1
Lierse SK	1
Beerschot AC	1

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SUCCESSES:

RSC Anderlecht	15
Union St. Gilloise	11
Beerschot AC	7
RFC Standard Liege	6
Racing Bruxelles	6
FC Liege	5
Daring CB	5
RFC Antwerp	3
Lierse SK	3
FC Malines	3
CS Bruges	3
FC Bruges	2

Note.
*FC Bruges won 7-6 on penalty kicks.

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BELL

BRAZIL AN ON TRIAL I

ERIC BATTY previews the World Champions' forthcoming tour

Paulo Cesar of Brazil.

IN the opinion of most top European players and coaches, the World Cup next year will see the demise of Brazil. Certainly it is true that not since 1958 when Brazil won the World Cup in Sweden has any South American team made a big impact on a World Cup played in Europe. Argentina's defeat of West Germany in February has been dismissed and I fear that the results Brazil will achieve on their tour of Europe next month will do little to change the general view that even the Brazilians will be unable to impose their skills in European conditions.

It must be assumed, however, that the Brazilians have digested the lessons of 1966 when they brought a relatively old team to Liverpool and were humiliated. But it must be emphasised that it was not merely the age of some of their players that acted against them in 1966. Of even greater importance was their insistence on retaining their 4-2-4 framework when everyone else was playing 4-3-3 and some had already graduated to 4-4-2. In my view the mishaps which befell Brazil in 1966 were at least as much due to their midfield players being outnumbered as to any other factor.

Qualified

Most Brazilians failed to recognise this and indeed they were still playing 4-2-4 during their 1968 European tour for which team manager Aimore Moreira paid the penalty. They qualified against South American opposition without modifying their overall framework in 1969 and it was only when Zagalo took over early in 1970 that they switched to 4-3-3.

Perhaps the greatest danger to Brazilian hopes for 1974 will be the possibility that Zagalo's position could be undermined if, as I fear, their results next month are unconvincing. He is already under pressure at home for omitting Carlos Alberto from his touring squad and for failing to include the Palmeiras inside forward Ademir de Guia. The latter has for some years been amongst the outstanding individuals in the Brazilian game but has rarely been given an opportunity to show what he could do at international level. Other managers, including Schon, Ramsey and Valcareggi have their critics for similar reasons but only in Brazil is there a lobby within the CBD which could be powerful enough to oust him.

Unfortunately, to far too many self-styled experts managers are only as good as their last result. The trip to Europe should never be regarded as an opportunity to rub the noses of the old world into their own mud. Rather is it an exercise designed to find out how many of the established players can still play at the highest level—ready for next year—and the chance to give promising young players vitally important international experience. Results on a trip like this have a certain importance but they are not the reason for making the tour.

Seeing the Brazilians on their 1968 tour, it was clear to me that not only were they hypnotised by the past successes based on 4-2-4 but they were also lacking in physical preparation even compared with the Czechs who beat them 3-2 in Bratislava.

Competition

For the 1970 World Cup the Brazilian squad spent the best part of three months on physical preparations immediately prior to the competition. This was enough to transform players like Rivelino and Gerson who in Europe had demonstrated their skills but failed to dominate. The precise make-up of the Brazilian squad is as yet still undetermined but though it is not clear if they will all make the trip a guide is provided by the players who attended a recent preliminary get-together at Recife.

The most notable features were the absentees: Pele, Everaldo, Tostao and Carlos Alberto. Pele, of course, has made it quite clear that he no longer wants to be included, indeed he does not appear too keen even to play for Santos. Everaldo, left back in 1970, is out of action — suspended for one year—while Tostao is currently recovering from another injury to the retina of his left eye he first damaged in 1969.

Defence

Carlos Alberto, an outstanding success at right back in Mexico has apparently been omitted because he has been playing the *libero* role for his club. It has been said of him that according to Zagalo, both Ze Maria (Corinthians and Eurico (Palmeiras) are as good as he was at full back while several others are better in the heart of the defence.

Even amongst the old guard who gathered at Recife there are some whose future must at least be questionable. Goalkeeper Felix was amongst them and must have given Zagalo palpitations in Mexico. Yet he is still there for the moment, despite the fact that he will be 35 at World Cup time. Another real veteran is Gerson who is already 32 but, again according to Zagalo is getting wiser as his legs get older and shows no sign of decline.

D ZAGALO N EUROPE

One or two old heads can be worth their weight in gold during critical periods in the highest level of competition. Assuming fitness Gerson will certainly make the trip this time and probably remain as a key figure for 1974. Flanked by two comparative youngsters Clodoaldo and Rivelino who will do most of the donkey work, this midfield trio could be Brazil's greatest strength next year. Nevertheless, during the forthcoming tour I expect the Cruzeiro pair Ze Carlos and Dirceu Lopes to be given the maximum possible exposure to European conditions.

Brito and Wilson Piazza were also at Recife though neither can be sure of their places. Brito particularly is both vulnerable and temperamental and it seems likely that Luis Perreira of Palmeiras will emerge from the tour as a first choice in the centre of the back four.

Tostao, in training with some Brazilian colleagues.

Category

The only 1970 stars who at this distance appear certain to retain their places both for the tour and the *Mundial* are Clodoaldo, Rivelino and Jairzinho though it is hoped that Tostao will make a complete recovery and be added to the squad later. For the rest, everything is in the melting pot and several young players of repute could enhance their future with a good tour. Leivinha (Joao Leiva Campos Filho) centre forward of Palmeiras is in this category, having made a good impression in the Mini-Cup staged last year.

Others in this category who have yet to show their talents in Europe include Wendell (Wendel Lucina Ramalho), goalkeeper of Botafogo, left back Marinho (Francisco das Chagas Marinho) his club mate, Luis Pereira (Luis Edmundo Pereira) centre back of Palmeiras and left winger Dirceu (Dirceu Jose Guimaraes) from Botafogo. Apart from Leivinha they are all as yet uncapped but are perhaps the most promising of the unknowns likely to be included and given an opportunity on the tour.

Wendell, who is 24, has spent six years with Botafogo and until former international Manga went to Uruguay was kept in the shade. During the last 18 months he has rapidly established himself. Left back Marinho is only 20.

Very quick and with a tremendous shot he is a frequent scorer and joined Botafogo from Recife only a year ago. Dirceu is also 20 and was on loan to Curitiba when he played for Brazil in last year's Olympic Games. Though nominally a left winger he plays in the manner of Zagalo, dropping back to roam the entire length of the field on the left flank, defending and attacking in turn.

There are also several members of the provisional touring party who are surely having their last chance to establish themselves having been on the fringes of the team for some time. In this category are above all, Paulo Cesar who was presumptuously and almost universally accepted in 1970 as the heir to Pele.

Orthodox

Another very talented player who must like Paulo Cesar stake his claim now or be forgotten is the Santos left winger Edu (Jonas Eduardo Americo). A touchline dribbler of real talent Edu might well in the end suffer from a decision to play 4-3-3 with only one winger (Jairzinho) but in Europe he will be given the chance to prove that he has a real contribution to make. Should he do well and the central strikers fail there is no valid reason why Jairzinho should not switch back into the centre and Edu become the orthodox winger on the left.

Two other players who were included in the 1970 "22" but failed to establish themselves as regular choices are Marco Antonio (Marco Antonio Feliciano) and Dirceu Lopes (Dirceu Lopes Mendes). The former who plays at right back for Fluminense is still only 22 while Dirceu Lopes is 26 and plays for Cruzeiro.

Marco Antonio appeared at left back a few times in 1970 and could take advantage of Everaldo's misdemeanour to play himself into the side while Lopes has to either be positively brilliant when he gets his opportunity or wait for one of the established midfield trio — Clodoaldo, Gerson, Rivelino—to fail.

Prestige

There will be matches enough to give everyone an opportunity and though his critics may not agree I would feel that Zagalo will turn out his best available side only for two prestige games—against Italy and West Germany. I would expect his team to be something like this: Felix (or Wendell); Ze Maria, Luis Pereira, Wilson Piazza, Marco Antonio; Clodoaldo, Gerson, Rivelino; Jairzinho, Levinha, Dario.

For the immediate future, and this means the World Cup, a great deal will depend on the performances of the two *Puntas de Lanza*, Leivinha and Dario. With Tostao's future in jeopardy, this pair are the first in line to take over the central striking role filled in Mexico by Pele and the unfortunate Tostao.

If they fail to penetrate the well organised European defences then the prospects for Brazil (and Zagalo) will be in doubt. It is conceivable that with left wingers in the squad, they might experiment with two wingers and one central striker or they could switch Jairzinho and shift the weight of their attack to the left flank.

GREAT BRITAIN

SCOTLAND

by Alex Gordon

Scottish clubs set for attack on Europe

DISGRUNTLED fans who have consistently bemoaned the fact that Scottish soccer has lacked the competitive edge of England in the past had better not take a show of hands on the vote if they think this trend is to continue in the new season.

Soccer North of the border has never looked more healthy and as well as looking forward to epic battles on the domestic scene there is the assault force of Celtic, Rangers, Hibs and Aberdeen getting set to make their bids for the major European trophies. It looks like being a tremendous year of excitement, entertainment, drama and action.

And what has caused this upheaval? I think a lot of the credit must go to Rangers and their manager Jock Wallace. They have at last got out of the soccer wilderness and their challenge to rivals Celtic last term made it a grandstand finish to a superb season. The Parkhead men achieved another "impossible" record by lifting the League championship for the EIGHTH successive year—a feat that will surely never be broken—and Rangers won their first Scottish Cup in seven years by defeating Celtic 3-2 in a breathtaking final at Hampden.

Hibs must not be forgotten for the major part they played in making it an enthralling season. They won the League Cup and the Drybrough Cup at the start of the year and were hit by cruel luck in the run-in on the title. They lost International right-back John Brownlie for half the season and in crucial matches such as the League game against Rangers at Ibrox they just never got a fair run of the ball. However, that is in the past now and manager Eddie Turnbull will make sure that his men will be 100 per cent ready for another glory assault as soon as the new season kicks off.

As well as Celtic, Rangers and Hibs there is, of course, Aberdeen, who just managed to edge into the UEFA Cup on goal difference from Dundee. The Dons must be wondering what it takes to keep their star players happy. Over the past two seasons they have lost Martin Buchan to Manchester United, Joe Harper to Everton and former skipper and midfield play-maker Stevie Murray went to Celtic at the end of the season for £50,000. That is a lot of talent for any one club to lose. Can manager Jimmy Bonthrone rebuild his side into the mighty marauders we know they can be?

Certainly he has the knowledge and a fair bit of money to spend if key players come on the market. A couple of good buys

Derek Parlaine scores Rangers first goal against Celtic in the Scottish FA Cup Final.

Celtic players congratulate each other after a 3-0 win over Hibernian at Easter Road had clinched their eighth successive league championship.

mixed in the company of Hungarian wizard Zoltan Varga, solid centre-half Willie Young, international keeper Bobby Clark, dependable left-back Jim Hermiston and energetic leader Drew Jarvie could see the Pittodrie men as a main threat. They go into the UEFA Cup absolutely determined to make amends for last season's nightmare when they crashed out of the trophy in the first round to West German aces Borussia Munchengladbach.

Dundee have lost their skipper Doug Houston to Rangers, but they, too, can play their part next season in the great race for honours. They have the talent to play good-looking football, spreading the ball around the pitch with the sort of accuracy a soccer purist such as their boss Davie White would demand, but they still lack a bit of "dig" up front. They need someone to lead the attack with courage and zest to hammer into the opposing defence.

Atmosphere

There are other sides, of course, who could take the spotlight. Hearts, for instance, had a woeful end to last season when they could hardly do anything right and there was talk of the fans boycotting Tynecastle. It is in this sort of desperate, frantic atmosphere that teams are born, players become men determined to show their capabilities. It wouldn't surprise me if Hearts returned to their challenging best next season.

These, then, are the teams who are out to overthrow the Celtic domination of the Scottish League flag. If the Parkhead men make it nine wins next season it would be the soccer feat of the century anywhere in the world.

Celtic, though, are not perfect. This was proved last season when they lost three out of three Cup Finals at Hampden to Hibs (twice) and Rangers. It has been said before and it will be said again . . . Jock Stein's men lack a real destroyer in the heart of the defence. Ally Hunter in goal is as sound as they come and right-back Danny McGrain won a lot of admirers last year with his buccaneering style. The midfield is packed with talent in the form of Stevie Murray, Bobby Murdoch, Tommy Callaghan, Davie Hay and Harry Hood. Up front Kenny Dalglish, Dixie Deans, Bobby Lennox and Jimmy Johnstone hit over 100 League and Cup goals among them last season.

The major problem must be at centre-back. Skipper Billy McNeill has been a Parkhead hero on countless occasions and will probably go down as one of the most famous skippers in Celtic's illustrious history, but although he is still practically unbeatable in the air he doesn't have the same powers of recovery on the deck as he used to have. Beside him there is sweeper George Connelly, Scotland's Player of the Year. Connelly is one of the most cultured players in the game, there can be no doubt about that. But, again, he just doesn't have the killer instinct. It is a very vulnerable part of the team when it is exposed.

Someone such as Jim Holton, of Manchester United, would probably work wonders in the heart of Celtic's defence. It can't be any consolation for manager Stein to know that Holton was once on Celtic's books and is, in fact, still a Parkhead fan!

One club with no worries in this department is definitely Rangers where the so-mature Derek Johnstone performs with the sort of calm and artistry that was once reserved for midfield players. Johnstone was just one of the young Ibrox men involved in last term's Rangers "miracle". The looked dead at the start of the new season and didn't appear to have enhanced their chances of a recovery when Colin Stein and Willie Johnston were transferred to England, but back from the soccer dead they came in great style.

They were unbeaten in the entire second-half of the season and when Tom Forsyth rolled in the 61st minute goal against Celtic in the Final to take the Cup, they got some reward for their efforts.

Blistering

Now the great race gets ready to take off again. The season's break will seem very short to the players as they rest their aching limbs after a hard-fought, blistering, pulsating season. They deserve their break for there will be no let-up when they return to action. The fans have their appetite for the game back again and they will demand the same sort of thrills and spills in the new season.

Yes, like I said, Scottish soccer looks healthy again . . . and who is to say that at least one of the major European honours won't find its way into a boardroom north of the border?

'Terrible twins' keep Huracan at the top

ARGENTINA

AVALLAY and Brindisi, rapidly becoming the terrible twins of Argentine soccer, are keeping their club, Huracan, at the top of the First Division table and themselves at the top of the scorers table. Huracan, the only one of the so-called "big six" which has never managed to win the league title since the start of professionalism in 1931, have won their six games played (with a 22-4 goal average), while Avallay and Brindisi, both internationals, share the goal-scorers lead with six goals each. So far, the leaders, true to their name, have blown through the championship like a hurricane. Breathing down their necks, however, are other big clubs, San Lorenzo, River Plate and Boca Juniors.

For once the league form of teams participating in the "Libertadores" Cup has not suffered. San Lorenzo, the only other unbeaten side, whose 4 won, 2 drawn record would usually have been good enough to top the table, have the resources as they showed in their last game when they beat Gimnasia y Esgrima 2-1 with virtually a reserve team. River Plate, who strengthened their weakest department—defence—by buying international, Wolff, from Racing, are in the same position, but their progress may be hampered if they don't soon clear up wage squabbles with their players.

Standings after six games:

1. Huracan 12pts.; 2. River Plate, San Lorenzo 10; 4. Boca Juniors (1 game less) 8; 5. Velez Sarsfield, Estudiantes de La Plata (both 1 less), Rosario Central, Chacarita Juniors, Atlanta, Argentinos Juniors 6; 11. Independiente (2 less) 5; 12. Gimnasia y Esgrime de La Plata (1 less), Newells Old Boys de Rosario, Colon de Santa Fe 3; 15. Racing Club (1 less) 2; 16. F.C. Oeste (1 less), All-Boys 1.

CHILE

The threat of a split, with seven clubs breaking away to form a Metropolitan Championship and avoid games with provincial clubs which brings them losses, has been avoided. The F.A. has formed a committee to study the complete reorganisation of Chilean soccer.

VENEZUELA

Soccer continues to fight for survival in Venezuela, however. On top of the fact that two Associations are fighting to control the game in the country — a situation which has already kept Venezuela out of the "Libertadores" and World Cups — they may soon have nothing to rule. Clubs of the Professional League continue to lose money heavily so that they may soon have to disband.

BRAZIL

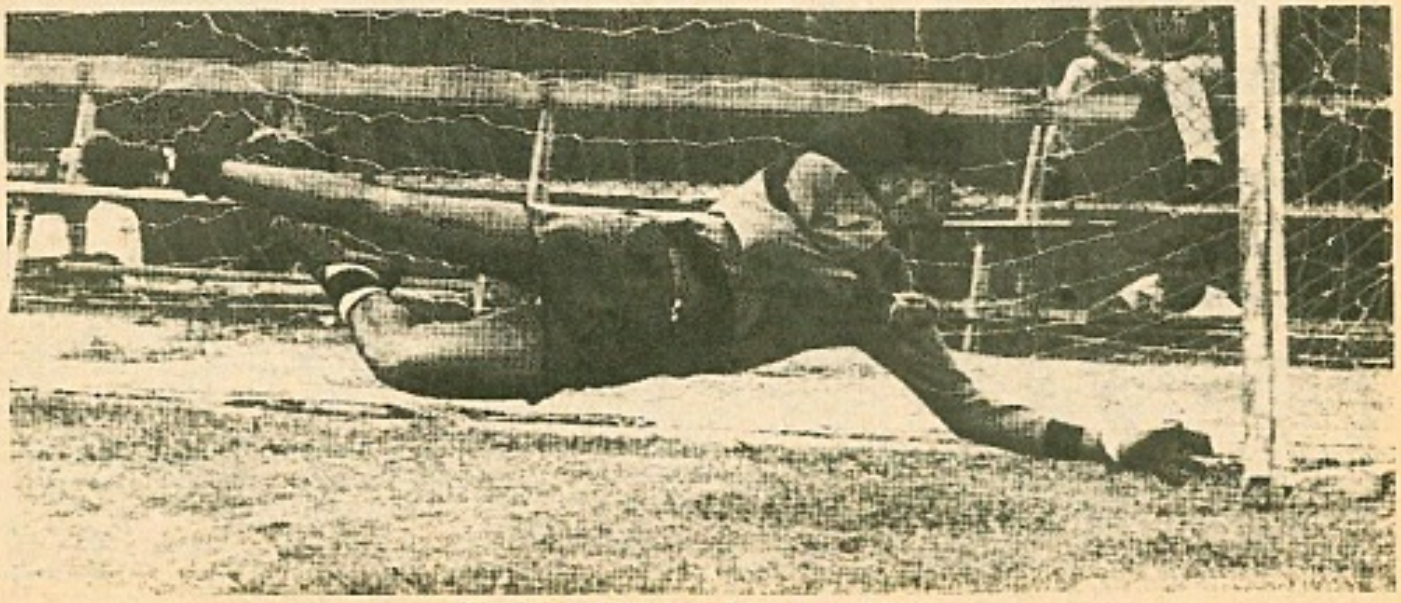
BRAZIL — Carioca League: 1. Vasco da Gama 7 pts.; 2. Fluminense, Flamengo, América, Madureira 5; 6. Botafogo 4; 7. Bangu, Olaria, Campo Grande 2; 10. Sao Cristovao, Portuguesa 0. **San Pablo League:** 1. Guarañi 9; 2. San Pablo 7; 3. Santos 6; 4. Ponte Preta, Portuguesa, Corinthians, America, Ferroviari, Palmeiras 4; 10. Juventus, Sao Bento 2.

COLOMBIA

COLOMBIA — "Abertura" Championship: 1. Millionarios de Bogotá 13 pts.; 2. Union Magdalena, Nacional, Deportivo Cali 10; 5. Bucaramanga 9; 6. Junior, Cucuta 8; 8. Medellin 7; 9. Dep. Pereira, Tolima, Independiente Santa Fe, America 6; 13. Dep. Quindio, Once Caldas 5.

PARAGUAY

PARAGUAY — 1 Division: 1. Libertad 7 pts.; 2. Nacional 6; 3. Cerro Porteño 5; 4. Olimpia, River Plate, Rubio Nu 4; 7. Sportivo Luqueño, Guarani 3; 9. Sol de America, General Caballero 2.



Wendell, goalkeeper of Botafogo and Brazil.

Avallay scores another goal for league leaders Huracan in Argentina.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

WORLD CUP PLANS FOR '78

AT a recent press conference, held at the Argentine Football Association, some light was thrown on Argentina's intended preparations to host the 1978 World Cup. It is intended to play games at nine centres—Buenos Aires, La Plata and Mar del Plata (the seaside resort) in the Province of Buenos Aires and in the provinces of Santa Fe, Cordoba, Corrientes, Mendoza, Salta and Tucuman.

The new Boca Juniors stadium is expected to hold about 150,000 spectators and has been provisionally picked as the main centre, but construction has not yet started. The projected stadium is part of a huge sports centre being built on several inter-linked artificial islands on the River Plate.

If construction is not started in time—and it may not be, because presently there is trouble over the apparent disappearance of funds from a giant lottery in aid of the building fund—the River Plate's Club stadium will be chosen as the main centre. This stadium, on the banks of the River Plate, only has stands on three sides and holds 90,000. A further stand would have to be built to increase capacity, but lack of car parking facilities is a major problem.

At Mar del Plata and Salta, stadiums would have to be improved. At La Plata it has long been planned to build a big stadium to be shared by both the city's First Division clubs, Gymnasia y Esgrima and Estudiantes. The latter are the former World Champions and at the height of their power they had to play all their international home matches in Buenos Aires because their own stadium holds only 25,000 spectators. At the other centres mentioned, new stadia would also have to be built as existing ones are too small and certainly not up to World Cup standard.

But where is the money going to come from? A percentage from the Government-run football pools has been allotted for this purpose, but of the 1,100 million pesos (about £4 million), which should have been last season's share for the World Cup fund, not a peso has yet been handed over by the Government. The committee in charge of preparations is now appealing to the provincial governments of the chosen centres to make some funds available.

Bolivian champions, Jorge Wilsterman, who caused an early surprise in the "Libertadores" Cup by beating both the Argentine teams, San Lorenzo and River Plate, in Bolivia, then spoilt their chances by losing 3-1 to their vice-champions, Oriente Petrolero. Even so, they finished as unexpected runners-up in Group 1, in front of River Plate, but three points behind San Lorenzo who had no trouble at all to come out top.

There was no "team work" between clubs of the same country in Group 3 either where Ecuador's Nacional beat that country's champions, Emelec, and stopped them from qualifying for the semi-finals as group winners. Col-Colo, the Chilean champions, finished strongly with 5-1 home wins over both Ecuador's teams and took top place.

This had a rather surprising result. Emelec immediately sacked six of their foreign players, but not their coach who, in fact, got his contract renewed until the end of the year.

Having to do without their international players in the Cup was too much of a handicap for the Peruvian teams, Sporting Cristal and Universitario, in Group 5, and the eventual winners, Cerro Porteño, Paraguay's champions, rubbed it in when they beat Peru's champions, Sporting Cristal, by 5-0 in the last game. Arrúa scored four of the goals.

But where most fight was expected, in Group 2 between the Brazilian and Uruguayan clubs, it turned out to be almost a walk-over for the Brazilians in the end. In fact, Botafogo, of Rio, the vice-champions, and Palmeiras, of San Pablo, the national champions, finished level on points and had to play off for a place in the semi-finals, the former winning 2-0. Once great Nacional and Peñarol, of Uruguay, may still rule the roost at home, but after selling many of their top players to make ends meet, they are no longer in the top flight internationally.

Full results are published under "Classified Results".

EUROPE

SWITZERLAND

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

Two points but little comfort in the result

THE Swiss national side duly collected the expected two points from their World Cup encounter with Luxembourg. And this is about the only comforting, if not the sole charitable conclusion one can reach, following their meagre 1-0 victory over a team whose occasional brave displays cannot obscure their status of a soccery pigmy among giants. The Swiss certainly had chances to run up a handsome score, which in view of goal difference deciding the issue in the event of finishing level on points, was their avowed intention. But the forwards which took the field in Luxembourg did not just have an off-day —they were for various reasons unfit before the game had even started!

Walter Balmer actually began the match limping (!), after only a couple of sprints. Jeandupeaux, who is still doing his Army service—he wants to make at least a corporal!—was clearly out of condition, whilst "Kudi" Müller who, in recent weeks was merely a reserve with his German club Hertha Berlin, was neither physically nor mentally attuned to a match at international level.

Handicapped

His replacement would have been Fritz Künzli, but alas, he was injured. The Swiss were indeed handicapped by these misfortunes to their forwards, but since the squad of 22 has had to be lodged with FIFA much earlier, there was no chance of calling up other players. And the party already included too many midfield men and defenders.

Once again the Helvetians had to rely on those two trusted schemers Odermatt and Kuhn. One shudders to think what will became of the Swiss midfield, once this pair retire from the scene. In addition, the *libero* Chapuisat and goalkeeper Prosperi can also be pleased with their performances, but as for the rest their showing is like the result — best forgotten! National manager Bruno Michaud will have to think and work hard before he finds some sharpshooters for the next World Cup qualifying assignment against Turkey in May. And he is not likely to find them among his B-team, who were at pains to draw 0-0 with their counterparts from Luxembourg.

Now the public are clamouring for the inclusion of Peter Risi, the Winterthur striker who currently leads the National League scorers list with 15 goals. Whether he will fit into the scheme of the national side is, of course, quite another matter. And Michaud is unlikely to indulge in experiments for a match which might have a vital bearing on Switzerland's World Cup progress.

On the domestic front, Basel's surprise home defeat against their most persistent challengers Grasshoppers by 0-1, has thrown the title race wide open. Before the season's best crowd, for championship matches, of 28,000 at the St. Jakob stadium, the Zürich team shocked the title holders with their aggressive attitude, resilience, as well as tactical deployment. The winner came from Grasshoppers' winger Peter Meier.

Basel recovered from this shock after Easter, as their rivals faltered once more, and they increased their lead at the top to two points. The champions won at Lugano 1-0, whilst Grasshoppers dropped a valuable home point in a 2-2 draw with lowly St. Gallen.

Weaknesses

Basel failed yet again in the Cup final. This was staged on Easter Monday at the Wankdorf stadium in Berne, before a crowd of 45,000. Basel and Zürich fought out another tight duel—it was their third Cup final meeting in the last four seasons! The players, most of whom are current internationals, knowing each other's strength and weaknesses better than their managers, produced an interesting game, but which not surprisingly went into extra time.

Then Zürich broke the deadlock with two quick hammer blows. In the 92nd minutes a free-kick by the former German star Rudi Brunnenmeier (of 1860 Munich fame), was converted by Marti. After 101 minutes, Künzli collected a brilliant through-pass from Kuhn to make it 2-0. It was FC Zürich's third cup triumph over Basel; their previous wins were by 4-1 after extra time (1970), and 1-0 (1972).

How these two clubs have taken charge here, is shown by these statistics over the past seven years: Basel completed the "double" in 1967, and were also champions in 1969, 1970 and 1972. Zürich grabbed the "double" in 1966, were champions also in 1968 and Cup winners in 1970, 1972 and 1973! Zürich have incidentally won all four Cup finals in which they competed.

Confirmation

Both clubs are managed by German coaches; Helmut Benthaus reigns in Basel, whilst "Timo" Konietzka commands in Zürich. The success of these teams provides ample confirmation, that the more atheltic football played in the German-speaking part of this country has now completely overshadowed the more artistic, but less effective style as practiced in the Latin provinces, where the game is copied from the French and Italian neighbours.

And it looks very much as if Swiss soccer will continue to be dominated by the "big two", with the rest either changing their approach or left trailing and further feeling the pinch at the gates, which are well down on last season. As in England, it is hoped here, that a good run by the national team and above all qualification for the World Cup finals will revive interest in domestic competitions. But to achieve that, the Swiss must overcome Italy, the runners-up of the last world series. And that, in the present state of the national side, would be nothing short of a miracle!

USA and CANADA----

TOROS SIGN SADLER FROM MAN. UNITED

ENGLAND international and Manchester United player David Sadler is just one of a number of new players who will make their debuts in the North American Soccer League when the 1973 season opens in May.

Sadler, who has played in four internationals for England and was a regular member of the Manchester clubs defence until this season, has been loaned by manager Tommy Docherty to the Miami Toros.

The signing of Sadler is a direct result of a trip to England by the Toros Manager Norman Sutherland and the club coach John Young. Also signed as a result of this trip were two Scottish defenders Jim Easton and Ronnie Sharp. Easton was formerly with Hibernian, Dundee and Queen of the South while Sharp's last club was Cowdenbeath.

In an effort to bolster last season's bottom club, Sutherland and Young have travelled extensively this winter and at the time of writing only two of last year's team have been re-signed, they are Warren Archibauld a winger from Trinidad playing in his seventh NASL campaign and Roberto Aguirre a midfield player who made several international appearances for Argentina.

Two stars

The other new names include Ruben Montoya, an Argentinian goalkeeper, Ecuadorian midfield player Jorge Bolanos, obtained from the Guyaquil club Barcelona, and two stars from South Africa, Patrick Ntsoelengoe and Herman Blasheke, signed from the Kaiser Chiefs. Also signed is the American player Mike Seerey, who played a key role in getting the U.S. Olympic team to the finals in Munich.

Up north in Toronto the Metros have signed the well known Scottish player Ian MacPhee from St. Johnstone. MacPhee who has been a regular with the Perth club for a number of years has already arrived in Toronto where he hopes to make his home. The Metros have also released four of last season's players — full-back Frank Donlavey, half-backs Dave Thomson and Gus Moffat and forward John Fahy.

Another well known player who seems certain to make his debut when the Metros open in Dallas is former Sporting Lisbon player Fernando Pinto, while coach Arthur Rodrigues seems to have preferred three young Canadian players Jim McDonald, Peter Roe and Joe Schiraldi to the players released and said: "I have been very impressed with some of the Canadian youngsters who have made up for lack of technical skills with great determination and physical ability. I would rather use a young player who is fit and gives 100% than a veteran who coasts on his past efforts."

COLIN JOSE reports

In New York it is pretty much as you were for the league champions the Cosmos who have re-signed seven of last year's team. Former Czechoslovakian international winger Josef Jelinek will be back, as will the league's most valuable player Randy Horton and United States international Siggy Stritzl. One name that will be missing is Scottish born midfielder Johnny Kerr who was transferred to America of Mexico City during the winter.

Experiments

This season the NASL has received permission from FIFA to continue with their experiments regarding the offside rule, but instead of a line extending out from the edges of the penalty area NASL pitches will be marked with a line 35 yards out from the goal line. This means that a player can only be adjudged offside when he is within 35 yards of the goal line instead of the conventional rule which allows offsides to be called within the opposing half of the field.

In their experiments last season the NASL found the change too extreme and their conclusions were that it encouraged defensive players to retreat to the edge of the penalty area to cover the attacking players who were now free to position themselves within eighteen yards of the goal without being concerned with being offside. The result being that it opened up the midfield too much and severely restricted the space required to create attacks behind the defence.

Tour is shelved

THE ambitious international programme proposed for Canada this year by the national team manager John McMahon, and referred to extensively in the February World Soccer, has been shelved by the National Executive Committee of the Canadian Soccer Association.

Neither McMahon nor coach Frank Pike has been reappointed and in fact the whole national team programme designed to build a strong Canadian team for the final rounds of the 1976 Olympics currently hangs in the balance.

The problem seems to be that certain members of the CSA would like to see a coach of international reputation appointed and that they feel he should have a say in the programme before it is decided upon.

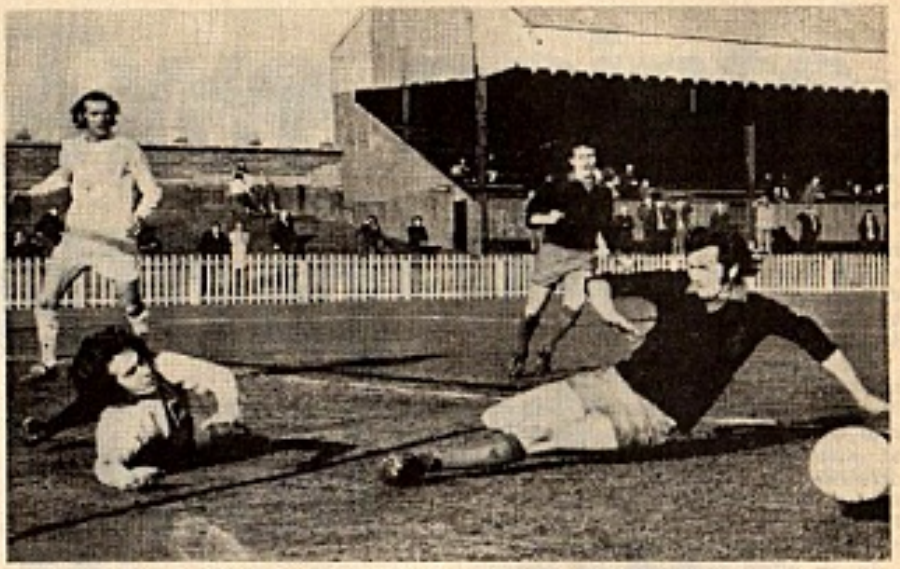
A name that is often mentioned in connection with the job is FIFA coach Dettmar Cramer, who impressed the CSA during a tour of Canada in December.

Meanwhile coach Pike, who has done such a splendid job in recent years of unearthing previously undiscovered Canadian talent, has been appointed to coach a Canadian Select team that will play Arsenal at the CNE Stadium in Toronto on May 23. The game will be promoted by the Ontario Soccer Association and it is understood that Arsenal manager Bertie Mee only agreed to bring Arsenal to Canada if they could play a part in helping Canada build a contender for the Olympics.

GREAT BRITAIN

N. IRELAND
by COLIN McALPIN

THE continuing inability of Northern Ireland football to sort out its disorganised end-of-season fixture list was perfectly illustrated by the case of Crusaders. The north Belfast club picked up their first-ever Irish League Championship after one of the most dramatic of finishes — with Portadown and Ards coming up fast, Crusaders had to win their last five games and, just in case the other two picked up all the points available, keep an eye on goal averages—and then had to wait for three weeks before meeting beaten Irish Cup finalists Linfield in a second round Gold Cup tie at Windsor Park.



Crusaders John McPolin (right) just fails to connect with a ball in a recent game against Distillery at Seaview. Distillery players are 'keeper McCartan Bryce and centre-half Peter Rafferty and the Crues back-up is Drew Cooke. McPolin was voted Northern Ireland Player of the year.

CRUSADERS WIN FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP

Match-fit

Crusaders young manager, Billy Johnston, commented after the title win: "Really I'm not all that concerned about the Gold Cup. I'd sooner just let the lads all go off for a well-earned holiday. The three-week break between games—especially as one brought us our first title and the other is a relatively unimportant Gold Cup game—is just too much. How on earth can I keep players match-fit and keyed up? Linfield are luckier in that they still have games to play in the period we'll be resting."

The other handicap which hit the Seaview side was an obvious one. Their young players, not surprisingly, were caught up in a whirlwind of celebrations. Almost every night at the club's social centre there was a champagne evening as delighted fans saluted the success.

Advocate

The pile-up of minor competitions—the Gold Cup and the County Antrim Shield—brought renewed protests from such men as Glentoran boss George Eastham who has long been a strong advocate of a shorter season in Ulster.

His side won the Irish Cup—a shock result against the much-fancied Linfeld and achieved in the face of a set-back to goalkeeper Alan Paterson early in the game—yet still had to play Linfield in a two-leg Shield semi-final tie.

George, like a growing number of local officials, feels there are simply too many competitions in the Irish League and has called, constantly, for a radical pruning.

The set-up of 12 teams means, of course, that there has to be more than the normal League and Cup programme. But some of the competitions do not include all the teams —the Shield—and therefore lack the necessary drawing-power. In many instances, in fact, it costs clubs to compete for the end-of-season Shield.

Personally I agree that there are too many competitions. The season starts with the Ulster and City Cups and one of these could safely be dumped. Then there is the League proper, the Irish Cup, the knock-out Gold Cup and the Shield. And last season there was the new, sponsored Carlsberg Cup. Two competitions could be dropped and they wouldn't be missed . . . certainly not by the fans who usually don't bother to turn out if they are played at the end of a long, hard season.

Crusaders added the Louis Moore Cup—for Reserve teams — to the League championship and had, for the first time ever, two players honoured by the Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association. John McPolin was selected the Player of the Year and Laurie Todd the Teenage Player of the Year.

Accepted

Both have contributed much to the success of the club who are now, along with Glentoran and League runners-up Ards, turning their thoughts to Europe.

Last season local clubs were not accepted for the major European competitions by EUFA because of the unwillingness of Continental clubs to come to Ulster. But the three who are in a position to enter this time are utterly determined to do so . . . and they expect the Irish F.A. officials to fight for their acceptance.

A lot of complications are being put in the way of the trio—curiously enough by the Irish F.A. itself—but this time European football must be brought back to Northern Ireland.

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EUROPE

BRUGES CLINCH FIRST TITLE IN FIFTY YEARS

Christian Piot, the Standard Liege goalkeeper.

BELGIUM

WITH Bruges safely winning the championship for the first time in 53 years, having been runners-up for the past couple of seasons, chief interest has concerned the scramble for minor placings to enable clubs to get into Europe.

Standard Liege were second, though a run of 16 unbeaten games ended when Berchem beat them 2-1 at home. Standard boss Rene Hauss announced his intention of leaving the club after five years; an amicable arrangement though Standard would probably have liked him to stay on.

Hauss reckons, however, that five years with any club is enough. In the last home League game Standard treated him by thrashing Beerschot 6-0, an extraordinary result in view of the latter's recent improvements. Standard also qualified for the Cup Final, beating Racing White 1-0 in the semi-final.

Racing White, who were third, are likely to combine with Daring Molenbeek next season. Ten years ago Racing Brussels and White Star were joined—now we have a footballing menage a trois! Racing White had too few supporters at Woluwe and Daring a poor Second Division side wanted to get back into Division One, so presumably everyone gains something.

Most disappointing side were Anderlecht, who fell away badly in the final games and lost 2-1 at Antwerp in the middle of the row over trying to get Antwerp trainer Urbain Braems for themselves next term. But with the prospect of no European football for the first time for many years, Anderlecht beat Lierse 1-0 after extra time in the Cup semi-final and now have to beat Standard in the final on May 27 to qualify for the Cup Winners Cup.

The relegation battle ended with Diest hauling themselves over Union St Gilloise with a 1-0 win away over their luckless opponents and then beating Antwerp 2-0 while Union could only draw 1-1 at Beerschot. Down go Union and Crossing Schaerbeek who promptly put all 17 players on offer! Up from Division Two come Beveren and Waregem.

The national side beat East Germany 3-0 and it was good to see Raoul Lambert and Wilfried Van Moer, both off injured for much of the season back on form. Lambert scored twice, in fact.

JEUNESSE SUPREME

LUXEMBOURG

JEUNESSE D'Esch, with the title never really in doubt, achieved their 12th championship success. They scored 69 goals, conceded 19 and dropped only a handful of points including just one defeat.

Their ace marksman, Jean-Pierre Hoffmann, shared with Ettelbruck's Johnny Grettnich the honour of top marksman with 27 goals. But Grettnich was responsible for half his side's total and his team finished only in the middle of the 12-club table.

Tetange lost 1-0 at Spora on the last day of the season and with The National beating Beggen by a similar score it was Tetange who accompanied Bettembourg on the relegation slide.

Hagan stays

PORTUGAL

BENFICA, making headlines all season, announced finally that English born manager Jimmy Hagan would stay for another year after all. Ilidio Fulgencio, who is the director of the club's soccer section, said the new contract would replace the one due to expire on July 31. It had been thought that Hagan would be leaving the club despite the success attained in the League.

But Benfica still have their eyes on Stefan Kovacs, the Ajax trainer who is leaving to take up a year's appointment with the Rumanian national team. And the Portuguese thinking looks like making a bid for him in 1974.

Meantime, Benfica shocked everyone, including themselves, by losing for the first time in a domestic game when Leixoes beat them 2-0 in the Cup. After that they struggled to beat second from the bottom Tomar 2-1 in the League, the winner coming 11 minutes from time. But they recovered their composure and took their total of League goals past the 100 mark with a 8-0 thumping of Guimaraes.

Precious good, however, did the victory over Benfica do for Leixoes' Cup aspirations. They were beaten 1-0 in the quarter-finals by Sporting via a Nelson goal in twenty minutes. Porto surprisingly lost 1-0 to Farense at Faro and two games at Barreiro ended with widely different scorelines: CUF thrashed Tomar 5-0 and Setubal had a 1-0 win over Barreirense.

The national side were beaten 2-1 in Sofia by Bulgaria but the players claimed that the Irish with whom they had drawn would take the necessary two points from the Bulgarians to help Portugal qualify for the World Cup after all.

Classified results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified

SOUTH AMERICAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
"Libertadores" Cup
First Round Final Placings

(Group winners and Cup holders, Independiente (Argentina), qualify for semi-finals)

GROUP 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt.
SAN LORENZO (Arg.)	6	5	0	1	15	1	10
Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia)	6	3	1	2	6	8	7
River Plate (Argentina)	6	2	1	3	12	10	5
Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia)	6	1	0	5	5	19	2

GROUP 2

BOTAFOGO de Rio (Bra.)	6	4	1	1	14	8	*9
Palmeiras de S. Paulo (Br.)	6	4	1	1	10	6	9
Nacional (Uruguay)	6	1	2	3	8	9	4
Peñarol (Uruguay)	6	0	2	4	3	12	2

**Botafogo beat Palmeiras in play-off.*

GROUP 3

COLO-COLO (Chile)	6	3	2	1	16	4	8
Emelec (Ecuador)	6	3	1	2	6	6	7
Nacional (Ecuador)	6	2	1	3	5	10	5
Union Española (Chile)	6	1	2	3	3	10	4

GROUP 4

MILLIONARIOS (Colom.)	2	1	1	0	6	2	3
Deportivo Cali (Colombia)	2	0	1	1	2	6	1

(Venezuela's teams were not allowed to participate)

GROUP 5

CERRO PORTENO (Par.)	6	4	1	1	14	5	9
OLIMPIA (Paraguay)	6	3	0	3	7	4	6
Sporting Cristal (Peru)	6	2	2	2	3	9	6
Universitario (Peru)	6	1	1	4	4	8	3

Semi-final draw: Group 1—San Lorenzo (Argentina), Independiente (Argentina), Millionarios (Colombia). Group 2—Botafogo (Brazil), Colo-Colo (Chile), Cerro Porteño (Paraguay).

MARCH 5

Peru 5 (Muñante 2, Cubillas 2, Sotil)
Guatemala 1 (Estrada)

March 25

Peru (2) 2 (Iriondo og, Sotil)
Bolivia 0

("Sucre" Cup, 1st Leg)

Peru: Uribe, Navarro, La Fuente, Manzo, Triguero, Mayorga, Quesada, Muñante (Barbadillo), Perez Rojas (Cubillas), Challe, Sotil.

Bolivia: Cobo, Cayo, Iriondo, Chavez, Saucedo, Rocha (Blacud), Linares Moreno, Mezza, Agreda, Chavez F., Fernandez.

MARCH 31

Bolivia (0) 1 (Mesa)
Paraguay (1) 1 (Jimenez)

Bolivia: Cobo, Cayo, Iriondo, Chavez, Agreda, Jimenez, Saucedo Landa, Rocha, Paricnic, Mesa, Fernandez (Linares).

Paraguay: Benitez, Eaciso, Sosa, Garay, Correa, León, Cino, Verza, Escobar, Arrua, Jimenez.

South American Club Championship
1st Round

Group 1

Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia) 3 (Taritolay 2, Dede)
Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) 1 (Gangas)

Oriente Petrolero: Gimenez, Asielo, Baez, Pedrozo, Villagra, Taritolay, Leano, Bravo, Toninho, Dedé, Veloso.

J. Wilsterman: Iosa, Olivera, Pérez, Ponce, Cabrera, Busuci, Vargas, Bravo, Gangas, Valdivia, Limbert Cabrera, Walton Joana.

San Lorenzo (Argentina) (0) 1 (Ayala)
River Plate (Argentina) 0

San Lorenzo: Irusta, Glaria, Piris, Heredia, Rosl, Telch, Esposito, Cocco, Gonzalez, Ayala, Chazarreta.

River Plate: J. Perez, Wolff, Jauregui, Dominichi, O. Perez, D. Onega, Merlo, Alonso, Mastrangelo, Morete, Ghio.

River Plate (Argentina) (1) 2 (Morete, Ponce o.g.)
Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) (1) 2 (Milton Johana, Gangas)

River Plate: J. Perez, Wolff, Jauregui, Dominichi, O. Perez, Lopez, Merlo, D. Onega, Mastrangelo, Morete, Mas.

J. Wilsterman: Iosa, Olivera, Perez, Cabrera Boucett, Ponce, Bravo, Sanchez, Bargas, Cabrera Rivero, Milton Johana, Gangas.

San Lorenzo (Argentina) (2) 4 (Ayala 2, Gonzalez, Herodia pen.)
Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia) 0

San Lorenzo: Irusta, Glaria, Piris, Heredia, Rosl, Esposito, Telch, Cocco, Gonzalez, Ayala, Chazarreta.

Oriente Petrolero: Gimenez, Justiniano, Pedrozo, Campos, Asielo, Toninho, Leano, Taritalay, Mendez, Luizinho, Ribeiro.

San Lorenzo (Argentina) (1) 3 (Ayala 2, Veglio)
Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) 0

San Lorenzo: Irusta, Glaria, Piris, Heredia, Rosl, Esposito, Telch, Cocco (Figueroa), Gonzalez (Veglio), Ayala, Chazarreta.

J. Wilsterman: Iosa (Bilbao), Olivera, Ponce, Perez, Limbert Cabrera, Cabrera Boucett, Bravo, Vargas, Gangas, Sanchez (Bernal), Cabrera Rivero, M. Johana.

River Plate (Argentina) (3) 7 (Lopez 2, Pedrozo o.g., Martinez, Alonso, Di Meola, Mas)
Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia) (0) 1 (Ribeiro pen.)

River Plate: J. Perez, Vazquez, Jauregui, Daulle, O. Perez, Lopez, Merlo, Alonso, Martinez, Di Meola, Mas.

Oriente Petrolero: Jimenez, Arias, Baez, Pedrozo, Campos, Luizinho (Erbas), Taritolay, Mendez, Toninho, Dede, Ribeiro.

Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia) (1) 1 (Cabrera Boucett)
Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia) 0

Group 2

Botafogo de Rio (Brazil) 4
Peñarol (Uruguay) 1

Botafogo de Rio (Brazil) (0) 2 (Roberto 2)
Palmeiras de S Paulo (Brazil) 0

Botafogo: Wendel, Valtencir, Brito, Scala, Marinho, Carlos Roberto, Marco Aurelio, Zequinha (Fischer), Roberto, Jairzinho, Dirceu.

Palmeiras: Leao, Eurico, Luis Pereira, Alfredo, Jair, Dudú, Adhemir da Guia, Leivinha, Edú, Milton (Sedato), Nei.

Nacional (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Mantegazza)
Peñarol (Uruguay) (1) 1 (Gonzalez pen.)

Nacional: Manga, Ubiñas, Brunel, Masnik, Blanco, Esparrago, Soria, Mameli (sent off 72 min.), Cubilla, Maneiro, Mantegazza (Amarillo).

Peñarol: W. Corbo, Gonzalez, Olivera, Matosas, Fernandez (sent off 75 min.), Lamas (Lutar), Acosta, Silva, Unanue, Moreno, R. Corbo.

Peñarol (Uruguay) (1) 2 (Morena 2)
Botafogo de Rio (Brazil (1) 2 (Marinho, Fischer)

Peñarol: W. Corbo, Elivera, Matosas, Gonzalez, Caetano, Lamas, Unanue, Lucchini, Morena, Silva, R. Corbo.

Botafogo: Wendel, Valtencir, Brito, Scala, Marinho, Carlos Roberto, Nei, Roberto, Jairzinho, Fischer, Dirceu.

Nacional (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Calcaterra)
Botafogo de Rio (Brazil) (1) 2 (Roberto, Jairzinho)

Nacional: Manga, Ubiñas, Brunel, Masnik, Blanco, Esparrago, Soria, Maneiro (Calcattera), Cubilla, Abad, Mantegazza.

Botafogo: Wendel, Valtecir, Brito, Scala, Marinho, Ney, Carlos Roberto, Dirceu, Jairzinho, Roberto, Fischer.

Peñarol (Uruguay) 0
Palmeiras de San Paulo (Brazil) (0) 2 (Fedato, Nei)

Peñarol: W. Corbo, Matosas, Olivera, Gonzalez, Lamas, Caetano, Lucchini, Unanue, Morena, Silva, R. Corbo.

Palmeiras: Leao, Eurico, Pereira, Alfredo, Zecca, Dudú, Adhemir, Edú, Leivinha, Milton, Nei.

Nacional (Uruguay) (1) 1 (Mantegazza)
Palmeiras (Brazil) (1) 2 (Ney, Ademir)

Nacional: Manga, Ubiñas, Brunell, Masnik, Blanco, Soria, Esparrago, Maneiro, Cubillas, Abad (Calcaterra), Mantegazza.

Palmeiras: Leao, Joao Carlos, Luis Pereyra, Alfredo, Zeca, Ze Carlos, Ademir, Leivinha, Edú (Ronaldo), Fedato, Ney.

(Play-off)

Botafogo de Rio (Brazil) (2) 2 (Pereira o.g., Jairzinho)
Palmeiras de Sao Paulo (Brazil (0) 1 (Adhemir)

Group 3

Colo-Colo (Chile) 5 (Valdez 2, Caszely 2, Lara)
Union Española (Chile) 0

Nacional (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Estupinan)
Colo-Colo (Chile) (0) 1 (Caszely)

Emelec (Ecuador) (1) 1 (Guime)
Union Española (Chile) 0

Emelec: Garcia, Echeverria, Piriz, Diaz, Ortiz, Bayona, De Maria, Lasso (Oliveira), Lamberck, Robila, Guime.

Union Española: Vallejos, Avendano (Machuca), Berly, Angulo, Yavar, Toro, Las Heras, Viveros (Landa), Pino, Gonzalez, Henry.

Nacional (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Estupinan)
Union Española (Chile) 0

Emelec (Ecuador) (1) (Lasso)
Colo-Colo (Chile) 0

Colo-Colo: Neff, Galindo, Gonzalez, Herrera, Rubilar, Valdez, Paez, Caszely, Ahumada, Beiruth, Veliz (Osorio).

Emelec: Garcia, Quijano, Piriz, Diaz, Ortiz, De Maria, Bayona, Tenorio (Oliveira), Lasso, Lamberck, Guime.

Union Española (Chile) 0
Colo-Colo (Chile) 0
Nacional (Ecuador) 1
Emelec (Ecuador) 0
Union Española (Chile) 2
Nacional (Ecuador) 1
Union Española (Chile) (1) 1 (Farias)
Emelec (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Mayola)

Union Española: Vallejos, Machuca, Berly, Angulo, Arias, Viveros, Las Heras, Yavar, Farias, Landa (Gonzalez), Henry.

Emelec: Garcia, Camacho, Piriz, Quijano, Ortiz, Demaria, Mayola, Castaneda (Landberg), Tenorio (Robila), Lasso, Guime.

Colo-Colo (Chile) (2) 5 (Valdez 2, Caszelli 2, Ahumada)
Nacional (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Morales)

Colo-Colo: Neff, Galindo, Gonzalez, Herrera, Rubilar, Valdez, Paez (Lara), Caszelli, Ahumada (Osorio), Messen, Veliz.

Nacional: Mendez, Perdomo, Velarde, Henriquez, Escalante, Morales, Cabezas, Rhon, Estupiñan (Corea), Carrera, Rodriguez.

Colo-Colo (Chile) (1) 5 (Caszelly 2, Valdez, Messen, Ahumada)
Emelec (Ecuador) (1) 1 (Lamberg)

Colo-Colo: Neff, Galindo, Herrera, Gonzalez, Rubilar, Paez, Valdez (Lara), Caszelly, Ahumada, Messen (Beyruth), Veliz.

Emelec: Garcia, Camacho, Piriz, Diaz, Ortiz, Castañeda, Lamberg (Echeverria), Bayona, Robila, Lasso, Guime.

Group 4

Millionarios de Bogotá (Colombia) 6
Deportivo Cali (Colombia) 2
Deportivo Cali (Colombia) 0
Millionarios (Colombia) 0

Group 5

Sporting Cristal (Peru) 1
Universitario (Peru) 0
Olimpia (Paraguay) 2 (Verza 2)
Cerro Porteño (Paraguay) 1 (Arrúa)
Olimpia (Paraguay) 1
Universitario (Peru) 0
Cerro Porteño (Paraguay) (0) 1 (Barciro)
Universitario (Peru) 0

Cerro Porteño: Baez, Rodriguez, Eaciso, Troche, Mendoza, Ortiz, Osorio, Arrúa, Cino (Escobar), Maciel, Barciro.

Universitario: Goynueta, Martinez, Cuellar, Carbonel, Toyen, Crumdo (Vilchez), Castañeda, Uribe, Alcart (Chia), Balleti, Calatayud.

Olimpia (Paraguay) 1
Sporting Cristal (Peru) 0
Cerro Porteño (Paraguay) (0) 5 (Arrúa 4, Cino)
Sporting Cristal (Peru) 0

Cerro Porteño: Baez, Rodriguez, Eaciso, Troche, Mendoza (Zarracho), Ortiz, Osorio, Arrúa, Cino, Maciel, Barciro (Escobar).

Sporting Cristal: Quiroga, Revoredo, Mellin, Baigorria, Fernandez, Del Castillo, Miffin, Palacios, Gonzalez, Viña de Souza, Gallardo.

European Cup Final preview

Continued from page 15

Ajax cannot be expected to vary their line-up which will be 4-3-3 while Juventus will almost certainly play a far tighter, much less adventurous 1-3-4-2. The Dutchmen should see more of the ball and though I am sure they will be more prudent than usual it will be up to them to force the pace and carry the game towards Zoff.

There is one aspect of the game in which Ajax have a distinct advantage—the matter of scoring goals. Where Juventus will rely almost entirely on Anastasi and Altafini, plus perhaps Bettega if he should play or be introduced during the game. Ajax, with 99 league goals to their credit as I write, have their goals very well spread out. Though headed by Cruyff and Johnny Rep, no one has yet reached 20. Almost everyone in the Ajax side is a potential scorer including, unusually, Barry Hulshoff one of the twin centre backs.

Tight-marked

There is one very critical factor here, a potential weakness in the customary Italian defensive line-up. Rep, Cruyff and Keizer being the front three, they will assuredly be tight-marked and followed everywhere by an Italian defender charged with the task of preventing his immediate opponent playing any real part in the game. Clearly the individual abilities of Cruyff and Keizer cannot be shackled for the entire ninety minutes and neither can the explosive shooting power of Rep be totally eliminated. In one against one battles close to goal and one of this trio could create a scoring chance for himself or a colleague.

In midfield the Italians will probably not mark tight but play in zones with an extra man . . . 4 against 3 . . . to give immediate cover in midfield as the *libero* does at the back. But Neeskens, Gerry Muhren and Haan are all good passers of the ball and they are all adept at going forward in possession. Even more important they all shoot.

Here is one of the key factors for Juventus because the Ajax players do so much running for each other, flying about in all directions that they can and almost certainly will, pull Italian defenders and their midfield men away to the far corners. In this space that the running of the Ajax players thus creates, Krol, Surbier, particularly Hulshoff and even Blankenberg may all be given the opportunity to go forward and shoot at goal.

With Ajax close to their best form, their combined skills and individual abilities will certainly present Juventus with all sorts of problems. Yet, though as an idealist I would like to see them retain the premier position in European football I fear they may well be caught. In Jose Altafini, Juventus have a player who stood out as a potential match-winner at Derby and it was his goals in Turin that proved critical. Alongside him is the versatile and very gifted Pietro Anastasi, good on the ball and very quick. They play to each other and off each other very well indeed.

Summing up, it has all the hallmarks of an outstanding clash between giants of different schools. Skilful, collective, probing football against defence in strength and the well executed quick break. I hope it will be Ajax but I fear that *La vecchia signora* (the old lady) will take the Copa Europa back to Italy.

Rudd Krol of Ajax.

Classified results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified

EUROPEAN CUP
semi-final

Ajax (0) 2 (Hulshoff, Krol)
Real Madrid (0) 1 (Pirri)
Real Madrid (0) 0
Ajax (0) 1 (Gerrie Muhren)
Juventus (1) 3 (Altafini 2, Causio)
Derby County (1) 1 (Hector)
Derby County (0) 0
Juventus (0) 0

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP
semi-final

AC Milan (1) 1 (Chiarugi)
Sparta Prague (0) 0
Sparta Prague (0) 0
AC Milan (0) 1 (Chiarugi)
Leeds United (0) 1 (Clarke)
Hajduk Split (0) 0
Hajduk Split (0) 0
Leeds United (0) 0

UEFA CUP
semi-final

Borussia Moenchengladbach (1) 3 (Heynckes 2 Jensen)
Twente (0) 0
Twente (0) 0 (Notten)
Borussia Moenchengladbach (2) 2 (Drost o.g., Rupp)
Liverpool (1) 1 (Lindsay)
Tottenham Hotspur (0) 0
Tottenham Hotspur (0) 2 (Peters 2)
Liverpool (0) 1 (Heighway)

WORLD CUP
Asian Sub Group B-2

MAY 4

North Korea (0) 0
Iran (0) 0
Syria (0) 2 (Shahrestan, Nabil Nano)
Kuwait (0) 1 (Duraihim)

MAY 6

Iran (1) 2 (Vafukhah, Parvin)
Kuwait (0) 1 (Kameel)
North Korea (0) 1 (Kim Jong Min)
Syria (0) 1 (Shahrestan)

MAY 8

Iran (0) 1 (Kargar-Jam)
Syria (0) 0
Kuwait (0) 0
North Korea (0) 0

MAY 11

North Korea (0) 1 (Pak Sug Jin)
Iran (1) 2 (Monajati, Sadeghi)
Syria (1) 2 (Saiid, Shahrestan)
Kuwait (0) 0

MAY 13

Iran (0) 2 (Qulichkhani pen, Jabari)
Kuwait (0) 0
North Korea (2) 3 (An Se Uk, Ma Jung 2)
Syria (0) 0

MAY 15

Iran ( )
Syria ( )
Kuwait ( )
North Korea ( )

Belgium (1) 3 (Lambert, Dockx)
East Germany (0) 0

Belgium: Piot; Heylens, Dewalque, Vandendaelle, Martens, Van Moer, Heylgen (Dockx), Thissen, Semmeling, Lambert Van Himst.
East Germany: Croy; Kische, Zapf, Brausch, Kurbjuweit, Seguin, Sammer, Streich, Ducke, Lowe, Kreische.

Hamburg (2) 2 (Zaczyk, Heese)
Rest of the World (0) 5 (Marcari 2, Beckenbauer, Seeler, Muller)

Hamburg: Ozan; Kaltz, Nogly (Sandmann), Bjornmose, Hidien, Schulz, Memering (Winkler), Zaczyk, Heese, Hoenig, Volkert.
Rest of the World: Maier (Berrard); Carlos Alberto, Beckenbauer, Moore, McKinnon (Hottges), Law, Seeler, Bobby Charlton (Macari), Albert (Grabowski), Muller, Skohlar (Gordon).

Hungary (1) 2 (Zambo, Balint)
Austria (2) 2 (Starek, Tara)

Hungary: Gacsi; Pancsis (Fabian), Kovacs, Balint, Juhasz, Kocsis, Sipos, Fazekas, Bene, Antal Dunai, Zambo (Varhidi).
Austria: Koncilia; Sara, Schmidradner, Sturmberger, Krieger, Figemeier, Hasil, Starek, Parits (Hettenberger), Kreuz, Tara.

Denmark (1) 1 (Bjornmose)
Czechoslovakia (1) 1 (Petras)

Denmark: Therkildsen (Hansen), Ahlberg, Andersen, Bjerre, Jensen, Olsen, Bjornmose, Nygaard, Dahl, Lund, Holmstrom.
Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Dobias, Samek, Zlocha, Hagara, Bicovsky, Vesely, Stafura, Kuna, Capkovic, (Adamec), Petras.

● Continued on page 49

Results...dates...tables...res

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AFRICA

First preliminary round

Group 1

19.11.72 Morocco 0, Senegal 0
3.12.72 Senegal 1, Morocco 2

Group 2

2. 3.72 Algeria 1, Guinea 0
12. 3.72 Guinea 5, Algeria 1

Second Preliminary Round

Guinea 1, Morocco 1
Morocco 2, Guinea 0

Group 3

8.12.72 AR Egypt 2, Tunisia 1
17.12.72 Tunisia 2, AR Egypt 0

Group 4

15.10.72 Sierra Leone 0, Ivory Coast 1
29.10.72 Ivory Coast 2, Sierra Leone 0

Second Preliminary Round

Tunisia 1, Ivory Coast 1
Ivory Coast 2, Tunisia 1

Group 5

16. 7.72 Kenya 2, Sudan 0
23. 7.72 Sudan 1, Kenya 0

Group 6

Mauritius v. Madagascar
Madagascar v. Mauritius
Madagascar withdrew

Second Preliminary Round

Kenya 3, Mauritius 1
Mauritius 2, Kenya 2

Group 7

25.11.72 Ethiopia 0, Tanzania 0
3.12.72 Tanzania 1, Ethiopia 1
May-off Ethiopia 3, Tanzania 0

Group 8

30. 4.72 Lesotho 0, Zambia 0
4. 6.72 Zambia 6, Lesotho 1

Second Preliminary Round

1. 4.73 Ethiopia 0, Zambia 0
15. 4.73 Zambia v. Ethiopia

Group 9

5. 8.72 Nigeria 2, Congo Brazza. 1
15. 8.72 Congo Brazza. 1, Nigeria 1

Group 10

18. 6.72 Dahomey 0, Ghana 5
2. 7.72 Ghana 5, Dahomey 1

Second Preliminary Round

Nigeria 2, Ghana 3
Ghana 1, Nigeria 1

Group 11

6. 6.72 Togo 0, Zaire 0
20. 6.72 Zaire 4, Togo 0

Group 12

Cameroons v. Gabon
Gabon v. Cameroons
Gabon withdrew

Second Preliminary Round

10.12.72. Mauritius 1, Kenya 3
17.12.72. Kenya 2, Mauritius 2
4. 2.73. Cameroon 0, Zaire 1
25. 2.73. Zaire 0, Cameroon 1
27. 2.73. Zaire 2, Cameroon 0

ASIA

Sub-Group B1

4. 3.73 Australia 1, New Zealand 1
11. 3.73 Australia 3, Iraq 1
Indonesia 1, New Zealand 1
13. 3.73 Iraq 2, New Zealand 0
Australia 2, Indonesia 1
16. 3.73 Iraq 1, Indonesia 1
Australia 3, New Zealand 3
18. 3.73 Indonesia 1, New Zealand 0
Australia 0, Iraq 0
21. 3.73 Iraq 3, Indonesia 2
24. 3.73 Iraq 4, New Zealand 0
Australia 6, Indonesia 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Australia	6	3	3	0	15	6	9
Iraq	6	3	2	1	11	6	8
Indonesia	6	1	2	3	6	13	4
New Zealand	6	0	3	3	5	12	3

CONCACAF

First preliminary round

Group 1

20. 8.72 Canada 3, USA 2
24. 8.72 Canada 0, Mexico 1
29. 8.72 USA 2, Canada 2
3.10.72 Mexico 3, USA 1
6.10.72 Mexico 2, Canada 1
10.10.72 USA 1, Mexico 2

Group 2

3.12.72 Guatemala 1, El Salvador 0
10.12.72 El Salvador 0, Guatemala 1

Group 3

3.12.72 Honduras 2, Costa Rica 1
10.12.72 Costa Rica 3, Honduras 3

Group 4

11. 6.72 Jamaica v. Neth. Antilles
Neth. Antilles v. Jamaica
Jamaica withdrew

Group 5

15. 4.72 Haiti 7, Puerto Rico 0
26. 9.72 Puerto 0, Haiti 5

Group 6

26.11.72 Surinam 1, Trinidad 2
30.11.72 Trinidad 1, Surinam 1
10.12.72 Surinam 3, Antigua 1
3.12.72 Antigua 0, Surinam 6
10.11.72 Trinidad 11, Antigua 1
19.11.72 Antigua 1, Trinidad 2

EUROPE

Group 1

14.11.71 Malta 0, Hungary 2
30. 4.72 Austria 4, Malta 0
6. 5.72 Hungary 3, Malta 0
25. 5.72 Sweden 0, Hungary 0
10. 6.72 Austria 2, Sweden 0
15.10.72 Sweden 7, Malta 0
15.10.72 Austria 2, Hungary 2
25.11.72 Malta 0 v. Austria 2
29. 4.73 Hungary 2, Austria 2
24. 5.73 Sweden v. Austria
13. 6.73 Hungary v. Sweden
11.11.73 Malta v. Sweden

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	5	3	2	0	11	4	8
Hungary	5	2	3	0	9	4	7
Sweden	3	1	1	1	7	2	3
Malta	5	0	0	5	0	18	0

Group 2

8.10.72 Luxembourg 0, Italy 4
21.10.72 Switzerland 0, Italy 0
22.10.72 Luxembourg 2, Turkey 0
10.12.72 Turkey 3, Luxembourg 0
13. 1.73 Italy 0, v. Turkey 0
25. 2.73 Turkey 0, v. Italy 1
31. 3.73 Italy 5, Luxembourg 0
8. 4.73 Luxembourg 0, Switzerland 1
9. 5.73 Switzerland v. Turkey
26. 9.73 Switzerland v. Luxembourg
20.10.73 Italy v. Switzerland
18.11.73 Turkey v. Switzerland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	5	3	2	0	10	0	8
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Turkey	4	1	1	2	3	3	3
Luxembourg	5	1	0	4	2	13	2

Group 3

18. 5.72 Belgium 4, Iceland 0
22. 5.72 Iceland 0, Belgium 4
(In Belgium)
2. 8.72 Norway 4, Iceland 1
4.10.72 Norway 0, Belgium 2
1.11.72 Netherlands 9, Norway 0
19.11.72 Belgium 0 v. Netherlands 0
2. 8.73 Iceland v. Norway
22. 8.73 Netherlands v. Iceland
29. 8.73 Iceland v. Netherlands
(In Netherlands)
12. 9.73 Norway v. Netherlands
31.10.73 Belgium v. Norway
18.11.73 Netherlands v. Belgium

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	4	3	1	0	10	0	7
Netherlands	2	1	1	0	9	0	3
Norway	3	1	0	2	4	12	2
Iceland	3	0	0	3	1	12	0

Group 4

21. 6.72 Finland 1, Albania 0
20. 9.72 Finland 1, Rumania 1
7.10.72 East Germany 5, Finland 0
29.10.72 Rumania 2, Albania 0
8. 4.73 East Germany 2, Albania 0
6. 5.73 Albania 1, Rumania 4
27. 5.73 Rumania v. East Germany
6. 6.73 Finland v. East Germany
26. 9.73 East Germany v. Rumania
10.10.73 Albania v. Finland
14.10.73 Rumania v. Finland
3.11.73 Albania v. East Germany

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rumania	3	2	1	0	7	2	5
East Germany	2	2	0	0	7	0	4
Finland	3	1	1	1	2	6	3
Albania	4	0	0	4	1	9	0

Group 5

17.10.73 England v. Poland
15.11.72 Wales 0 v. England 1
24. 1.73 England 1 v. Wales 1
28. 3.73 Wales 2, Poland 0
6. 6.73 Poland v. England
26. 9.73 Poland v. Wales

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Wales	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Poland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group 6

29. 3.72 Portugal 4, Cyprus 0
10. 5.72 Cyprus 0, Portugal 1
18.10.72 Bulgaria 3, Northern Ireland 0
19.11.72 Cyprus 0 v. Bulgaria 4
14. 2.73 Cyprus 1, v. Northern Ireland 0

sults...dates...tables...results

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2. 5.73 Bulgaria 2, Portugal 1
9. 5.73 Northern Ireland 3, Cyprus 0
26. 9.73 Northern Ireland v. Bulgaria
13.10.73 Portugal v. Bulgaria
14.11.73 Portugal v. Northern Ireland
18.11.73 Bulgaria v. Cyprus

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	3	3	0	0	9	1	6
Portugal	4	2	1	1	7	3	5
N. Ireland	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Cyprus	4	1	0	3	1	9	2

Group 7

19.10.72 Spain 2, Yugoslavia 2
18.11.72 Yugoslavia 1 v. Greece 0
17. 1.73 Greece 2, Spain 3
21. 2.73 Spain 3, Greece 1
21.10.73 Yugoslavia v. Spain
19.12.73 Greece v. Yugoslavia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	3	2	1	0	8	5	5
Yugoslavia	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Greece	3	0	0	3	3	7	0

Group 8

18.10.72 Denmark 1, Scotland 4
15.11.72 Scotland 2, Denmark 0
2. 5.73 Denmark 1, Czechoslovakia 1
6. 6.73 Czechoslovakia v. Denmark
26. 9.73 Scotland v. Czechoslovakia
17.10.73 Czechoslovakia v. Scotland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Czechoslovakia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Denmark	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

Group 9

13.10.72 France 1, USSR 0
18.10.72 Eire 1, USSR 2
15.11.72 Eire 2 v. France 1
13. 5.73 USSR 1 Eire 0
19. 5.73 France v. Eire
26. 5.73 USSR v. France

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
USSR	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Eire	2	1	0	1	3	3	2

SOUTH AMERICA

Group 1

21. 6.73 Colombia v. Ecuador
24. 6.73 Colombia v. Uruguay
28. 6.73 Ecuador v. Columbia
1. 7.73 Ecuador v. Uruguay
5. 7.73 Uruguay v. Colombia
8. 7.73 Uruguay v. Ecuador

Group 2

2. 9.73 Bolivia v. Paraguay
9. 9.73 Argentina v. Bolivia
16. 9.73 Paraguay v. Argentina
23. 9.73 Bolivia v. Argentina
30. 9.73 Paraguay v. Bolivia
7.10.73 Argentina v. Paraguay

Group 3

29. 4.73 Peru 2, Chile 0
3. 5.73 Chile 2, Peru 0
(Venezuela withdrew)

results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified results

● *Continued from page 47*

Bulgaria (1) 2 (Denev, Bonev)
Portugal (0) 1 (Nene)

Bulgaria: Yorhanov; Zafirov, Ivkov, Penev, Aladjov, Bonev, Kolev, Stoyanov, Vassilev (Dermendjiev), Mikhailov (Jekov), Denev.
Portugal: Jose Henrique; Artur, Humberto, Mendes, Adolfo, Toni, Quaresma (Pavao), Simoes, Nene, Artur Jorge, Eusebio.

Albania (0) 1 (Bizi)
Rumania (2) 4 (Dumitru, Troi, Dumitrache pen, Taralunga)

Albania: Ruma (Muneditni), Gijka, Bericha, Ibershimi, Sedini, Rogani, Ghaia, Paraska (Stamo), Bizi, Braho, Pano.
Rumania: Raducanu; Stamapeanu, Antonescu, Dinu, Deleanu, Dumitru, Radu, Neuweiller, Troi, Dumitrache, Jordanescu, Marcu (Taralunga).

Holland (2) 3 (Rep, Cruyff 2)
Spain (1) 2 (Valdez 2)

Holland: Van Beveren; Suurbier, Israel, Hulshoff, Krol, Haan Neeskens, Van Hanegem, Rep, Cruyff, Keizer.
Spain: Reina (Garcia Remon); Sol, Benito, Macias, Violeta, Claramunt, Pirri, Aguilar, Garate, Irureta (Flaselles), Valdez.

USSR (0) 1 (Onischenko)
Eire (0) 0

USSR: Pilgui; Khurtsilava, Dzodzuashvili, Lovchev, Kaplichny, Kolotov, Kuntian, Kuneazov, Andriasian, Onischenko, Blokhin.
Eire: Kelly; Carroll, McConville, Hand, Holmes, Mulligan, Martin, Giles, Givens, Treacy, Conroy.

West Germany (3) 3 (Beckenbauer, Cullmann
Bulgaria (0) 0

West Germany: Franke; Hottges, Cullmann, Beckenbauer, Breitner, Kapellmann, Flohe (Koppell), Overath, Grabowski, Muller, Erwin Kremers.
Bulgaria: Jordanov (Goranov); Zafirov, Ivkov, Aladjov, Kolev, Penev, Vassilev, Bonev, Mikhailov, Stoyanov, Denev (Dermerdjiev).

Poland (1) 2 (Lubanski, Masztaler)
Yugoslavia (1) 2 (Pavlovic, Bjekovic)

Poland: Tomaszewski; Szymanowski, Wieczorek, Cmikiewicz, Musial, Kraska, Kasperczak, Deyna, Banas, Lubanski, Gadocha.
Yugoslavia: Maric; Holcer, Stepanovic, Katalinski, Begicevic, Pavlovic, Karasi, Acimovic, Petkovic, Bajevic, Oblak.

West Germany (0) 0
Yugoslavia (0) 1 (Bejevic pen)

West Germany: Maier; Beckenbauer, Hottges, Schwarzenbeck, Breitner, Flohe, Overath, Hoeness, Grabowski, Muller, Held (Kremers).
Yugoslavia: Maric; Holcer, Pavlovic, Katalinski, Stepanovic, Begicevic, Karasi, (Jerkovic) (Bjekovic), Acimovic, Petkovic, Bejevic, Oblak.

Northern Ireland (3) 3 (Morgan, Anderson 2)
Cyprus (0) 0

Northern Ireland: McPaul; O'Kane, Hunter (Coyle), Neill, Craig, Hamilton (Lutton), Jackson, Clements, Morgan, O'Neill, Anderson.
Cyprus: Christofi; Stylianou (N), Theodorou, Stylianou (S), Koureas, Michael, Constantinou Koudas, Efthymiades, Pappadopoulou, Stylianou (E).

Switzerland (0) 0
Turkey (0) 0

Switzerland: Prosperi; Chapuisat, Heer, Boffi, Hasler, Odermatt, Kuhn (Ramseier), Demarmels, Balmer, Kunzli, Muller (Quentin).
Turkey: Sabri; Ismail, Mehmet (A), Ozzer, Zekeriya, Bulent, (Mehmet III), Ziya, Koksal, Mehmet (I) (Tunkay), Cemil, Metin.

LEAGUE TABLES

ENGLAND (Final table)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	42	25	10	7	72	42	60
Arsenal	42	23	11	8	57	43	57
Leeds United	42	21	11	10	71	45	53
Ipswich Town	42	17	14	11	55	45	48
Wolves	42	21	11	13	66	54	47
West Ham United	42	17	12	13	67	53	46
Derby County	42	19	8	15	56	54	46
Tottenham	42	16	13	13	58	48	45
Newcastle	42	16	13	13	60	51	45
Birmingham	42	15	12	15	53	54	42
Manchester City	42	15	11	16	57	60	41
Chelsea	42	13	14	15	49	51	40
Southampton	42	11	18	13	47	52	40
Sheffield United	42	15	10	17	51	59	40
Stoke City	42	14	10	18	61	56	38
Leicester City	42	10	17	15	40	46	37
Everton	42	13	11	18	41	49	37
Manchester United	42	12	13	17	44	60	37
Coventry City	42	13	9	20	40	55	35
Norwich City	42	11	10	21	36	63	32
Crystal Palace	42	9	12	21	41	58	30
West Bromwich Albion	42	9	10	23	38	62	28

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CSKA Sofia	27	18	5	4	65	29	41
Levski Spartak	27	14	7	6	52	25	35
Slavia Sofia	27	12	10	5	42	27	34
Lokomotiv Plovdiv	27	13	7	7	50	31	33
Akademik	27	11	8	8	48	31	30
Lokomotiv Sofia	27	11	7	9	36	40	29
Trakia Plovdiv	27	10	7	10	36	30	27
Chernomore	27	10	7	10	39	40	27
Spartak Pleven	27	11	4	12	37	36	26
Botev Vratza	27	10	6	11	34	44	26
Dounav	27	9	8	10	23	34	26
Pernik	27	7	11	9	24	30	25
Chernomoretz	27	10	5	12	27	36	25
Beroe Stara Zagora	27	9	5	13	39	36	23
Etar Timovo	27	5	12	10	27	39	22
Laskov Jambol	27	8	6	13	29	43	22
ESK Spartak Varna	27	6	9	12	22	41	21
Volov Schumen	27	4	6	17	20	48	14

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Star Belgrade	26	18	5	3	53	17	41
Velez	27	15	10	2	43	18	40
OFK Belgrade	27	13	9	5	39	23	35
Partizan Belgrade	26	13	7	6	38	28	33
Zeljeznicar	27	14	5	8	39	30	33
Sarajevo	27	12	8	7	42	33	32
Sloboda	27	8	12	7	28	22	28
Vardar	27	9	10	8	30	32	28
Radnicki	27	9	7	11	20	29	25
Vojvodina	27	9	5	13	34	35	23
Dynamo Zagreb	27	7	7	13	22	38	23
Borac	27	7	8	12	19	19	22
Hajduk Split	27	10	2	15	34	42	22
Ror	27	8	6	13	26	43	22
Celik	27	7	7	13	21	40	21
Olympija	27	7	6	14	26	33	20
Spartak	27	6	6	15	26	42	18
Sutjeska	27	6	6	15	23	41	18

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	30	23	2	5	84	27	48
1 FC Koln	29	14	9	6	57	40	37
B Moenchengladbach	30	16	5	9	74	51	37
Fortuna Duesseldorf	30	12	11	7	55	43	35
Kickers Offenbach	30	13	7	10	55	50	33
VfB Stuttgart	30	15	2	13	61	56	32
Kaiserslautern	30	10	10	10	47	53	30
VfL Bochum	30	11	8	11	43	53	30
MSV Duisburg	30	10	9	11	48	46	29
Eintracht Frankfurt	30	14	3	14	48	49	29
Werder Bremen	30	10	6	14	37	45	26
Hertha Berlin	30	9	8	13	46	58	26
Hamburg	30	9	7	14	49	53	25
Eintracht Brunswick	30	8	7	15	29	48	23
Schalke 04	29	7	7	15	38	55	21
Hannover 96	30	7	7	16	39	60	21
Rot-Weiss Oberhausen	30	8	3	19	39	72	19

● *Continued overleaf*

... European details ... league tables ... Classified results ... European

● *Continued from previous page*

BELGIUM (Final Table)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bruges	**30**	**17**	**11**	**2**	**53**	**26**	**45**
Standard Liege	30	12	14	4	45	25	38
Racing White	30	10	17	3	45	19	37
Beerschot	30	14	8	8	40	33	36
Malines	30	10	16	4	37	28	36
Anderlecht	30	12	10	8	47	30	34
Antwerp	30	13	5	12	43	38	31
Beerchem	30	11	9	10	28	28	31
Lierse SK	30	10	11	9	43	43	31
FC Liege	30	9	11	10	34	35	29
CS Bruges	30	9	10	11	33	44	28
Beringen	30	8	10	12	28	39	26
St Trond	30	6	13	11	31	41	25
Diest	30	8	5	17	30	51	21
Union St Gilloise	30	4	11	15	17	38	19
Crossing Schaerbeek	30	3	7	20	20	56	13

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Dresden	**20**	**13**	**6**	**1**	**42**	**19**	**32**
Carl Zeiss Jena	20	10	8	2	30	16	28
Magdeburg	20	10	5	5	35	19	25
Karl Marx Stadt	20	9	6	5	23	21	24
Lokomotiv Leipzig	20	9	3	8	45	34	21
Dynamo Berlin	20	7	7	6	32	29	21
Sachsenring	20	6	7	7	28	30	19
Chemie Leipzig	20	4	10	6	15	17	18
Hansa Rostock	20	6	6	8	32	36	18
Wismut Aue	20	7	4	9	21	32	18
Vorwaerts Frankfurt	20	6	5	9	36	35	17
Chemie Halle	20	3	8	9	25	29	14
Union Berlin	20	3	3	12	17	36	13
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	20	5	2	13	26	46	12

ARGENTINA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huracan	**9**	**7**	**1**	**1**	**27**	**9**	**15**
Independiente	9	6	2	1	17	6	14
River Plate	9	7	0	2	21	15	14
Boca Juniors	9	5	2	2	16	7	12
San Lorenzo	9	4	3	2	14	11	11
Argentinos	10	5	1	4	15	20	11
Velez	9	3	4	2	10	7	10
Estudiantes	9	3	4	2	16	13	10
Rosario	10	4	2	4	14	13	10
Chacarita	10	2	6	2	8	10	10
Atlanta	10	4	1	5	11	18	9
Racing	9	2	4	3	8	12	8
Newell's Old Boys	10	3	2	5	12	12	8
Gimnasia	9	2	2	5	8	14	6
Colon	10	1	4	5	7	13	6
Ferrocarril Oeste	9	1	1	7	7	16	3
All Boys	10	0	3	7	7	21	3

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aarhus	**5**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**9**	**5**	**7**
Aalborg	5	2	1	0	7	4	7
KB Copenhagen	5	3	1	1	11	9	7
Hvidovre	5	2	2	1	8	5	6
Frem	5	2	1	2	5	6	5
Vejle	5	2	0	3	6	6	4
Koge BK	5	2	0	3	3	3	4
Akademisk	5	1	2	2	5	6	4
Randers Freja	5	1	2	2	5	6	4
B 1903 Copenhagen	5	1	2	2	4	6	4
Naestved	5	2	0	3	6	9	4
B 1901 Nykobing	5	2	0	3	7	11	4

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos Piraeus	**31**	**24**	**6**	**1**	**66**	**10**	**85**
PAOK Salonika	31	25	3	3	71	23	84
Panathinaikos	31	20	6	5	77	26	74
Panichaiki	31	15	11	5	40	25	72
AEK Athens	31	13	10	8	37	32	67
Panionios	31	13	9	10	41	30	65
Aris Salonika	31	12	9	10	33	30	64
Iraklis	31	8	14	9	30	30	61
Ethnikos	31	8	14	9	30	30	61
Kavala	31	8	13	10	31	34	60
Olympiakos Volos	31	10	8	13	24	39	59
Aigaleo	31	10	7	14	28	45	58
Panseraikos	31	6	13	12	25	42	56
Kalamata	31	7	9	15	27	42	54
Fostir	31	8	7	16	20	38	54
Atromitos	31	6	9	16	15	48	52
Trikala	31	4	8	19	20	48	47
Omonia	31	1	7	23	20	64	39

USSR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Schachtjor Donezk	**6**	**4**	**1**	**1**	**6**	**4**	**9**
Ararat Erewan	6	3	2	1	10	5	8
Dnjepr Dnjepro	6	3	1	2	8	5	7
Dynamo Tbilisi	6	3	1	2	8	5	7
Kairat Alma Ata	6	2	3	1	5	3	7
CSKA Moscow	6	3	1	2	7	6	7
Dynamo Kiev	6	3	1	2	5	5	7
Dynamo Minsk	6	3	0	3	6	4	6
Torpedo Moscow	6	3	0	3	5	4	6
Voroschilovgrad	6	2	0	4	6	4	4
Dynamo Moscow	6	1	1	4	4	6	3
SKA Rostov	6	1	1	4	3	6	3
Pachtakor Tashkent	6	1	1	4	3	7	3
Spartak Moscow	6	1	0	5	8	9	2
Zenit Leningrad	6	1	0	5	6	5	2
Karpaty Lvov	6	0	1	5	2	11	1

SWEDEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atvidaberg	**5**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**10**	**4**	**10**
GAIS Goteborg	5	4	0	1	9	5	8
Oester Vaxjo	5	3	1	1	7	3	7
Sirius BK	5	2	3	0	4	2	7
Saab IK	5	2	2	1	6	4	6
Djurgaarden	5	2	1	2	5	5	5
Oergryte	5	2	1	2	5	7	5
Malmo FF	5	2	0	3	12	10	4
Hammarby IF	5	1	2	2	4	6	4
Landskrona	4	1	1	2	4	5	3
Orebro	5	0	3	2	2	5	3
IFK Norrkoping	4	0	2	2	4	8	2
Elfsborg	5	0	2	3	6	10	2
AIK Stockholm	5	0	2	3	5	7	2

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ujpest Dozsa	**25**	**19**	**2**	**4**	**72**	**16**	**40**
Vasas	25	15	5	5	47	28	35
Ferencvaros	25	13	6	6	48	28	32
Honved	25	11	9	5	48	27	31
Zalaegerszeg	25	12	4	9	33	29	28
Raba ETO	25	13	2	10	41	39	28
Csepel	25	8	11	6	38	30	27
Videoton	25	11	4	10	33	33	26
MTK Budapest	25	6	10	9	28	38	22
Egyetertes	25	7	7	11	24	40	21
Salgotarjan	25	7	6	12	32	41	20
Szeged	25	5	10	10	25	41	20
Tatabanya	25	7	5	13	22	34	19
Pecs	25	5	9	11	19	34	19
Komlo	25	4	9	12	23	46	17
Diosgyor	25	3	9	13	15	44	15

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tatran Presov	**24**	**13**	**4**	**7**	**31**	**25**	**30**
VSS Kosice	24	11	6	7	39	23	28
Spartak Trnava	22	10	7	5	32	16	27
ZVL Zilina	24	12	3	9	41	32	27
Lokomotiv Kosice	23	10	6	7	30	27	26
Dukla Prague	24	8	9	7	25	21	25
AC Nitra	24	10	4	10	32	31	24
Sparta Prague	24	9	6	9	35	37	24
Slovan Bratislava	23	9	5	9	26	25	23
Union Teplice	24	10	3	11	25	23	23
Banik Ostrava	24	7	8	9	24	27	22
Skoda Plzen	23	8	5	10	28	29	21
Zbrojovka Brno	23	7	6	10	33	37	20
TZ Trinec	24	5	10	9	18	29	20
Hradec Kralove	24	8	4	12	23	45	20
Slavia Prague	24	5	8	11	21	36	18

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax Amsterdam	**33**	**29**	**0**	**4**	**99**	**18**	**58**
Feyenoord	33	26	4	3	87	28	56
Twente	33	22	5	6	53	22	49
Sparta Rotterdam	33	20	5	8	80	37	45
Den Haag	33	15	9	9	43	36	39
PSV Eindhoven	33	15	8	10	46	33	38
MVV Maastricht	33	14	8	11	49	38	36
Utrecht	33	12	8	13	42	52	32
Amsterdam	33	11	7	15	44	53	29
NEC Nijmegen	33	9	11	13	37	46	29
Telstar	33	12	4	17	37	48	28
Haarlem	33	9	9	15	40	53	27
Groningen	33	7	12	14	36	60	26
AZ 67	33	8	9	16	32	55	25
Go Ahead	33	8	8	17	30	51	24
NAC BREDA	33	6	7	20	25	57	19
Den Bosch	33	5	7	21	23	68	17
Excelsior	33	5	7	21	23	69	17

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid Vienna	**23**	**13**	**6**	**4**	**40**	**22**	**32**
Admira/Wacker	23	12	7	4	24	16	31
SW Innsbruck	22	13	4	5	41	16	30
VOeEST Linz	23	11	6	6	41	22	28
Grazer AK	23	10	7	6	35	19	27
Linzer ASK	23	8	11	5	33	22	27
Austria Salzburg	23	10	5	8	28	26	25
Alpine Donawitz	23	8	9	6	25	31	25
Wiener Sportklub	23	7	8	8	27	30	22
FK Austria	23	8	5	10	40	30	21
Vienna	23	7	6	10	30	37	20
Austria Klagenfurt	22	9	2	11	22	35	20
Sturm Graz	23	5	7	11	15	33	17
Eisenstadt	21	5	4	12	19	27	14
Bregenz	23	5	3	15	18	41	13
Wiener Neustadt	23	3	6	14	19	47	12

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stal Mielec	**21**	**10**	**8**	**3**	**37**	**20**	**28**
Gornik Zabrze	21	9	9	3	20	9	27
Ruch Chorzow	21	10	6	5	22	12	26
Gwardia Warsaw	21	8	9	4	27	18	25
Wisla Krakow	21	11	3	7	26	22	25
LKS Lodz	21	7	10	4	20	17	23
Zaglebie Sosnowiec	21	7	5	9	23	23	19
Legia Warsaw	21	4	10	7	18	21	19
ROW Rybnik	21	5	9	7	12	18	19
Lech Poznan	21	5	8	8	14	22	18
Polonia Bytom	21	6	6	9	17	28	18
Pogon Szczecin	21	5	6	10	21	26	16
Zagl. Walbrzych	21	6	4	11	18	27	16
Odra Opole	21	2	11	8	17	29	15

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atletico Madrid	**33**	**19**	**8**	**6**	**46**	**28**	**46**
Barcelona	33	18	9	6	40	20	45
Espanol	33	16	11	6	47	27	43
Real Madrid	33	17	9	7	43	24	43
Malaga	33	11	11	11	33	28	33
Valencia	33	12	9	12	37	33	33
Atletico Bilbao	33	12	9	12	38	34	33
Castellon	33	10	13	10	35	35	33
Real Zaragoza	33	10	13	10	35	35	33
Real Sociedad	33	12	8	13	36	39	32
Las Palmas	33	11	8	14	38	44	30
Oviedo	33	9	12	12	33	43	30
Granada	33	9	11	13	24	30	29
Betis	33	7	14	12	28	33	28
Gijon	33	10	7	16	31	37	27
Celta Vigo	33	9	9	15	27	37	27
Coruna	33	7	13	13	21	41	27
Burgos	33	8	6	19	34	62	22

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	**27**	**26**	**1**	**0**	**93**	**13**	**53**
Belenenses	27	12	12	3	46	26	36
Setubal	27	14	5	8	60	26	33
Sporting	27	13	7	7	52	28	33
Porto	27	14	6	8	51	27	32
Guimaraes	27	10	9	8	35	36	29
Boavista	27	11	7	9	38	43	29
CUF Barreiro	27	10	8	9	34	31	28
Leixoes	27	11	6	10	29	41	28
Barreirense	27	8	7	12	37	54	23
Montijo	27	9	4	14	27	38	22
Beira-Mar	27	5	12	10	25	45	22
Farense	27	6	7	14	22	51	19
Coimbra	27	5	6	16	21	48	16
Atletico	27	4	7	16	26	50	15
Tomar	27	3	4	18	23	64	14

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nantes	**36**	**21**	**9**	**6**	**63**	**30**	**51**
Nice	36	19	10	7	66	38	48
Marseille	36	19	9	8	63	35	47
St Etienne	36	17	10	9	57	42	44
Nancy	36	16	10	10	57	42	42
Nimes	36	16	9	11	47	37	41
Angers	36	15	10	11	49	46	40
Reims	35	13	11	11	46	43	37
Bastia	36	14	8	14	56	40	36
Sochaux	36	11	13	12	43	48	35
Paris	36	12	10	14	50	52	34
Rennes	36	12	10	14	40	49	34
Bordeaux	36	11	11	14	45	49	33
Lyon	36	13	7	16	55	62	33
Metz	36	12	9	15	37	51	33
Strasbourg	36	8	12	16	38	59	28
Sedan	36	10	8	18	46	68	28
Valenciennes	36	8	10	18	35	47	26
Red Star Paris	36	6	14	16	36	55	26
Ajaccio	35	7	8	20	37	75	22

EGYPT (Final Table)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mahalla	22	13	7	2	29	10	33
Zamalek	22	11	10	1	25	10	32
Ismaili	22	11	8	3	29	13	30
Ahli	22	10	7	5	20	10	27
Ittihad	22	11	5	6	25	17	27
Arsenal	22	9	6	7	18	18	24
Olympic	22	4	10	8	13	19	18
Canal	22	5	7	10	8	15	17
Damietta	22	4	9	9	13	22	17
Misr	22	7	2	13	13	27	16
Plastics	22	3	8	11	14	29	14
Aviation	22	2	5	15	9	26	9

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Basel	**22**	**14**	**4**	**4**	**43**	**27**	**32**
Grasshoppers	22	11	7	4	47	27	29
Winterthur	22	11	6	5	35	20	28
Sion	22	10	7	5	30	28	27
Lausanne	22	10	5	7	36	22	25
Servette	22	11	3	8	32	21	25
Zurich	22	8	8	6	29	24	24
Lugano	22	7	8	7	22	26	22
Chaux-de-Fonds	22	8	6	8	28	33	22
Young Boys	22	8	4	10	28	29	20
Chiasso	22	7	4	11	18	34	18
St Gallen	22	5	5	12	27	43	15
Grenchen	22	4	3	15	18	40	11
Fribourg	22	2	6	14	16	35	10

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	**29**	**18**	**8**	**3**	**62**	**28**	**44**
Juventus	29	17	9	3	43	21	43
Lazio	29	16	11	2	33	15	43
Fiorentina	29	15	7	7	39	25	37
Inter-Milan	29	14	7	8	31	23	35
Torino	29	11	9	9	33	20	31
Bologna	29	10	9	10	29	29	29
Cagliari	29	9	11	9	24	24	29
Napoli	29	6	14	9	17	23	26
Roma	29	6	12	11	22	26	24
Verona	29	4	16	9	23	31	24
Atalanta	29	5	14	10	16	32	24
Sampdoria	29	4	14	11	15	25	22
Vicenza	29	6	10	13	14	31	22
Palermo	29	3	10	16	13	41	16
Ternana	29	3	9	17	14	37	15

PAULO CESAR
Brazil

TUNISIA

Back row left to right: Bazdah, Costabazzi, Mrad, Mellitti, Zittini, Atuga.
Front row: Sharkuhn, Mohiedin, Atid, Bermorrad, Temime.